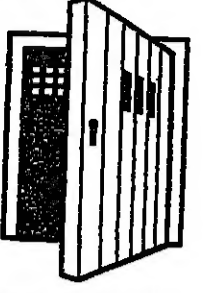


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THE TIMES Tomorrow

Poetic injustice
Profile of Afrikaner poet
Breyten Breytenbach
jailed in South Africa for
his anti-apartheid
campaign but now
continuing his writing in
exile



Mirror on the war
Robert Fisk reports on a
Lebanese village whose
tragic experiences reflect
those of the entire
country

Sliding role
Books: David Owen
reviews Anthony
Parsons's account of the
fall of the Shah of Iran.
Fiona MacCarthy on the
age of chivalry

Arrivederci Roma?
Soccer: reports from
Rome and Bucharest on
the progress of Dundee
United and Liverpool in
the European Cup

Fears over nurses home sales

The recommended sale of National Health Service nurses' homes could leave many young nurses with nowhere to go and could put victims of accidents and bombing at risk, the Royal College of Nursing said. **Page 2**

Kinnock appeal

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, appealed for calm as his supporters scuffled with Welsh nationalists at a by-election meeting in Hirwaun, Mid Glamorgan.

Fake £50 hunt

Interpol is helping Scotland Yard in its hunt for a counterfeit gang after forged £50 notes were found in Holland, France, and Spain. **Page 3**

Power deal

An agreement between Mozambique, Portugal and South Africa on the use of power Cahora Bassa hydroelectric scheme in Mozambique will be signed in Cape Town on May 2. **Page 6**

Dollar gains

The dollar gained on world currency markets as rising inflation and a booming economy strengthened expectations of higher American interest rates. **Page 19**

Militant setback

The Labour Party is expected to expel six supporters of the Militant Tendency who were allegedly plotting the takeover of their local party. **Page 2**

Israeli fears

Concern is growing in Israel that one of the Arabs who hijacked a bus earlier this month may have been captured alive and killed later. **Back page**

Higgins out

Alex Higgins, the 1982 Embassy world snooker champion, was knocked out of this year's contest by Neal Foulds, a newcomer aged 20 who turned professional a year ago. **Photograph, page 3**

Cricket preview

John Woodcock previews a cricket season in which England face a Test series against the formidable West Indies. A full fixture list is also published. **Page 25**

Leader page, 17

Letters: On Libyan People's Bureau, from Mr Maloney, and others; Dimbleby lecture, from Mr A. H. Mallinson, and Sir John Barnes. **Page 17**

Features, pages 10, 11, 16

Bernard Levin on a crucial union election; the Afghan resistance in search of a leader; the threat to Britain's woodlands. **Page 10**

Page stand-in mothers

A two-page special report looks at Austin Rover's massive investment in its latest model launched today. **Pages 14, 15**

Obituary, page 18

Sir Roland Penrose, Ansel Adams. **Page 18**

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Top Gaddafi aide deported and eight Libyans held

By Henry Stanhope, Stewart Tendler and John Witherow

A delegation of three senior Libyan officials, led by a deputy minister, arrived in Britain late last night to supervise the evacuation of the Libyan People's Bureau as the Sunday deadline set by Britain grew closer.

News of the delegation emerged yesterday as Colonel Muammar Gaddafi's personal representative in Britain, the most senior of the quartet which led the seizure of the bureau earlier this year by fervent supporters of the Libyan leader, was deported and eight Libyans were detained by immigration officials at Heathrow airport.

The delegation, arriving at Gatwick, is led by Colonel Abdul Rahman Shaibi, said to be a Libyan intelligence expert, and includes two assistants, Mr Nasir Ashur and Mr Ahmed Said. The trio are expected to see Foreign Office and Home Office officials today.

The appearance of the delegation may indicate an acceleration in moves to end what has become the longest major siege in Britain. An invitation for the Libyans to send officials to London was made last Sunday by Mr Oliver Miles, the British Ambassador in Tripoli, to Mr Ali Treiki, the Libyan minister in charge of foreign affairs.

Whitehall said yesterday that the trio would not be involved in negotiations but would deal with the nuts and bolts of the Libyan departure. The Government wants to ensure that there is someone of authority from Tripoli so that decisions do not need to be referred to Libya and to demonstrate to the international community that it has nothing to hide.

The Libyan view of the delegation's purpose, however, may be different, according to Libyan sources abroad and inside the bureau. Colonel Gaddafi may not allow British diplomats to leave Tripoli until the bureau is empty.

One Arab journalist, who spoke to the bureau yesterday, was told that a letter from Tripoli had told those inside that their departure would take place after the British diplomats had left Libya. Five diplomats are understood to be still in the bureau.

Sunday - the last possible time for evacuation under the British ultimatum - still seems the likely moment for the Libyans to close down. The Libyans may use the delegation to attempt to patch up relations by offering an official apology and compensation.

Handing over the gunman who killed WPC Yvonne Fletcher would be more complicated. Tripoli is reported to know the killer's identity, but he is not a diplomat.

The Libyan deported yesterday under an order signed by Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, was named as Mr Abdul Ghadir Khalifa Baghdadi. He was arrested as he left the Libyan consulate in Kensington early yesterday morning, and expelled because his presence would "not be conducive to the public good".

Mr Baghdadi, aged 37, was regarded as the most senior Libyan official in Britain and Colonel Gaddafi's personal representative. Although he and three others did not seize control of the bureau from other Libyan officials until February this year, it is reported that for the past year the officials were forced to consult him because of his close links to Colonel Gaddafi.

His departure yesterday afternoon means that two of the four members of the revolutionary committee have been expelled. Only one now remains in Britain.

He may be joined soon by one of the eight Libyans stopped at Heathrow yesterday. Seven were still being questioned last night by immigration officers, while one has already been released. The Home Office said the reason was that he was considered an "unsatisfactory student".

The Libyans can appeal and be released on bail, but he is in detention last night. All eight are described as students. Five arrived from Tripoli and three from Belgrade and all had visas, but since the weekend all visas are being reconsidered.

Mr Brittan will report to the Commons on the progress of the St James's Square siege and face the first parliamentary questions on the Government's handling of the crisis.

Mr Brittan yesterday chaired an hour-long meeting of Cobra, the Cabinet emergency committee.



Roof-top commuter: A woman scales a ladder to get to work in sealed-off St James's Square.

Scargill spurns MacGregor offer on closures

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders yesterday spurned an olive branch offer of talks on pit closures offered by Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, and promised to intensify their "rolling strike".

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers NUM, dismissed the coal board proposal to phase 20,000 redundancies over a longer period as "nonsense" and added: "As far as I'm concerned, pit closures and job losses are not negotiable".

National officials of the union will boycott a meeting in London today of the Coal Industry National Consultative Council at which the coal board had hoped to discuss extending the April 1985 deadline for shutting about twenty "uneconomic" pits.

The decision came as a blow to private diplomatic efforts by the coal board to get talks going on slimming the industry. Mr MacGregor launched his peace initiative at a meeting with unions representing pit deputies and managers last week. But it appears to have suffered a swift demise.

Mr Scargill said last night: "I am making it perfectly clear that we are not prepared to sit down and negotiate pit closures or reductions in manpower. We are not attending the consultative council because it has no power, no authority, and no right to negotiate."

His union is drawing a clear distinction between the consultative machinery under which today's meeting will be held - chiefly to talk about research and development - and the more formal conciliation procedure under which wages and jobs are negotiated.

"If Mr MacGregor or the board wish to have further discussions within the normal agreed procedure of the conciliation scheme, bearing in mind they broke off negotiations then all they have to do is pick up the phone and this union will meet them," Mr Scargill said. But in no circumstances would the mineworkers' union

Continued on back page, col 1

Civil servants scorn 3% pay offer

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Treasury last night took an uncompromising line with union leaders representing 510,000 white-collar civil servants and made a 3 per cent pay offer mirroring Government guidelines.

Senior officials of the nine unions immediately rejected the offer and accused the Government of refusing to consider evidence from the Office of Manpower Economics (OME) which showed that comparable white-collar pay settlements in the private sector were averaging 6 per cent.

In spite of the Treasury's apparent adherence to the pay limit, it was clear last night that it was not the Government's final position, and union leaders expect an improved offer at further negotiating meetings, the first of which is expected next week.

The Government will be anxious to strike a deal before the middle of next month when all Civil Service unions conferences are due and could be expected to adopt militant postures if there is no resolution of the pay issue.

Mr Peter Jones, secretary of the Council of Civil Service Unions, said the 3 per cent had been rejected with contempt. The offer offered amounted to "overt discrimination" against civil servants who were being penalized for the "dubious privilege" of working for the Government.

The unions had submitted a 7 per cent claim on the basis that the upper quartile of the private companies covered by the OME survey showed that an increase of that level would be required if civil servants were to keep pace.

Mr Jones said last night: "The Treasury has completely ignored the important and authoritative evidence produced by the OME. It was obviously inconvenient to face the facts about outside pay movements, notably that 96 per cent of private sector settlements have been above the 3 per cent The Treasury has offered."

But the Treasury said the report had been taken into consideration with other factors including the Civil Service's ability to recruit and retain staff. The falling rate of inflation and the need to constrain public service pay increases to about 3 per cent.

Observer directors censure Rowland for interference

By Alan Hamilton

Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, chief executive of Lomrho and proprietor of *The Observer*, has been censured by the newspaper's five independent directors for "improper proprietorial interference" in editorial freedom.

The directors' meeting at *The Observer's* London offices after a much-publicized breakfast flirtation between Mr Rowland and Mr Robert Maxwell on a possible sale of the paper, said that the proprietor's public criticism of his editor, Mr Donald Trefford, over an article alleging atrocities in the Matabeleland province of Zimbabwe, "constituted an inhibition, if not a restraint, on the editor's freedom".

Mr Rowland's conduct, the directors concluded, was therefore in breach of the memorandum of agreement of 1981 under which Mr Rowland acquired a controlling interest in the newspaper.

After meeting Mr Rowland and other Lomrho directors, Mr Trefford, and representatives of the paper's journalists yesterday, the directors said in a statement that they had been assured by Mr Rowland that his criticisms of the editor had not been based on a desire to protect Lomrho's business interests in Zimbabwe.

The directors acknowledged that the dispute between editor and proprietor had not been resolved, a view confirmed last night when Lomrho issued a statement refusing to accept that issued by *The Observer's* directors.

"The proprietors of *The Observer* have never inhibited or prevented the editor from publishing whatever he saw fit to publish. At the same time the proprietors maintain they have an absolute right to express disagreement with what is published if the need is felt to do so."

Lomrho also accused *The Observer* directors of being selective in their examination of the memorandum of agreement which governs the paper's editorial freedom.

"Other important matters undertaken by all parties to this agreement included that the emphasis on the Fatherhood of God was determinative for the Church."

The majority asked cautiously whether the Church should take more seriously women who felt alienated and distanced by an exclusively male description of God.

Both sides were agreed "that the God whom we have called, and must still call, Father, is not a male deity, nor a God whose character is that of a masculine authoritarian ruler, writ large". In the Bible, God's love was sometimes conveyed with metaphors drawn from female and maternal experience.

A long, hot summer is forecast

By Sheila Beardsall

Britain should continue to bask in spring sunshine for the rest of the week, and that would be the start of a long, hot, dry summer.

Little change in weather patterns was expected over the next five days in forecasts based on satellite photographs, although the eastern and south-eastern coastlines may be a little cooler.

With cloudless skies and temperatures staying in the mid-sixties it has been the best spring since 1949 when 84F was recorded at Greenwich on April 16.

Water authorities and farmers have been enthusiastic about the dry spell, although a welcome of showers would be welcome for some spring-sown cereals.

However, there has been concern about the fire risks in woodlands because of the dryness of the undergrowth. The Forestry Commission said there was particular worry in the north and west of Scotland, and people venturing into the forests were being advised to take special care.

Several parts of Scotland reached 75F yesterday. For Glasgow, it was the warmest April day since records began in 1868.

Bright sunshine brought a boom in the sales of sunglasses and bikinis, according to Debenhams' store in Manchester.

Sticks of ice cream have been rushed around the country after the enormous demands of the Easter weekend.

Mr Arthur Mackinnon, an amateur weather watcher from Bognor Regis, predicted a drought at least until the end of June or beginning of July.

"The omens are all there for a long summer, based on weather patterns. It was dry on March 21, the spring equinox, and the winds have been east-south-east, so it should stay dry," he said.

The rest of Europe has not been so fortunate. In Yugoslavia yesterday it was raining, and there were clouds over most of Spain and Portugal.

Forecast, back page

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Selling nurses' homes could harm patients, says union

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The sale of many National Health Service nurses' homes could leave young nurses with nowhere to go and could put patients involved in big accidents of bombings at risk, the Royal College of Nursing said yesterday.

The college was commenting on an unpublished report to health ministers which has recommended that the health service should raise between £170m and £750m by selling off residential property, including some nurses' homes.

Mr Trevor Clay, general secretary of the college, said that not all nurses wanted health service accommodation, much of which was in poor repair. But many student nurses in cities needed accommodation for security and to prevent loneliness, while sudden sales of nurses' homes could cause problems that "hospitals have not even thought of".

"In many cities, not just London, but cities such as Swansea and Nottingham, for example, there is not much alternative accommodation for nurses. If these changes were introduced suddenly there would be nowhere for nurses to go."

His other worry was in big cities where nurses' homes provided a pool of off-duty nurses near hospitals, when there were accidents, bombings, or other terrorist incidents.

"At the moment, if you have such an event, and you suddenly need 70 to 80 nurses, there is a

nurses' home nearby and they turn up in their dozens out of good will. That would be lost to the service and could put patients' lives at risk."

The report's recommendations are likely to be debated next week at the college's annual congress in Harrogate, with a college spokesman saying there was "a lot of concern about the proposals".

The report has little sympathy for the proposal that student nurses need to live in, both for their own protection and to foster esprit de corps and discipline.

The argument, it says is "patronizing" and "a statement of the inadequacy of the training, who, it could be argued, ought to be able to train their students to be responsible nurses without putting them through the experience of living in."

It recommends, however, that accommodation could still be provided for the 39,000 first-year students, but not for another 35,000 who live in health service accommodation. Junior doctors' leaders gave a cautious welcome to the report's recommendations. Mr Stephen Brierly, chairman of the Hospital Junior Staff Committee, said it had long taken the view that it was a "mistaken soft option" for some junior doctors to live in. His committee would defend the right of juniors on intensive rotas to have the right to a room, he said.

Miner, MP and union official stopped

From Paul Routledge, Labour Editor, Mansfield

Nottinghamshire police yesterday detained a striking miner for five hours in an incident involving a Labour MP and a trade union official.

Mr Gary Long, aged 36, an underground fitter at Kellingley Colliery, North Yorkshire, was arrested shortly after 6am while driving an official of the white-collar engineering union TASS through the coalfield.

Despite repeated assurances that he was travelling to Leicester and not engaged in secondary picketing, he was told to turn back or be arrested for obstruction. When he continued the discussion he was taken into custody at Mansfield. Mr Derek Fatchett, Labour MP for Leeds Central, who travelled as an observer in the car, as I did, asked the police at Ollerton roundabout why Mr Long's explanation had been rejected without any attempt to seek corroboration from his passengers.

A police inspector told him: "I am not here to answer your questions and I am not going to."

At the police station, however, CID officers checked Mr Fatchett's explanation and evidence from the TASS Yorkshire organizer, Mr Len Formby.

Mr Long was held in the cell with arrested pickets and then released without charges five hours later. He was, however, photographed and warned "as to his future conduct".

Before he was arrested Mr Long was asked where he was going and replied: "Leicester. I have no intention of causing a breach of the peace. I have done nothing wrong."



The Libyan bureau crisis

US blamed by Russia for siege

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Soviet Union is embarrassed by the behaviour of the Libyan leader Colonel Gaddafi, according to diplomats, but has none the less publicly sided with Libya's view that last week's anti-Gaddafi demonstration and siege of the people's bureau are part of an anti-Libyan conspiracy by Britain and the United States.

Giving the first authoritative Soviet account yesterday, Pravda said the "masterminds" should be sought in Washington as well as London.

It noted that the "provocation" against the people's bureau had coincided with an anti-Gaddafi campaign in the United States.

The Soviet media did not at first mention the fact that a British policeman had been fired at and killed. The Tass News Agency said the British police had staged an attack on the people's bureau.

The first mention of WPC Yvonne Fletcher's death came in Izvestiya on Saturday, illuminating for readers an otherwise incomprehensible incident.

Izvestiya suggested, however, that the United States was behind the shooting.

Yesterday, Pravda said that gunfire had "started unexpectedly outside the building". Britain had blamed the shooting on the people's bureau staff, despite Tripoli's denial of this "terrorist act" and despite Colonel Gaddafi's attempts "to solve the incident diplomatically".

With the West German press strongly applauding Britain's tough stand towards Libya, Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, is understood to be reconsidering a proposed visit to Tripoli.

Sources in the ministry say that "in the circumstances" a visit in the near future would not be appropriate. No date has been fixed, but Herr Genscher will have talks at Chancellery next month during which he will probably discuss his proposed visit.

Police keep watch on student building

By Richard Dowling

The police were mounting a discreet but intense observation operation on the commercial and consular sectors of the Libyan People's Bureau in west London yesterday.

The commercial section, in Ennismore Gardens, also houses the Jamahiriya Students Congress, the official Libyan student union, and two Libyan diplomats and their families.

Police, who have parked a control unit around the corner from the commercial section, were detaining people entering or leaving the building.

Commander George Howlett, at the control unit, said: "We are ensuring the safety of the diplomatic presence. We are not interfering with access or egress from the building at all but we are talking to a number of people who can assist us with our inquiries."

His officers detained a number of people who left the building, including an Algerian contractor who does building work for the Libyan bureau, a

Italians' strong Libyan ties

From Tamas Zolota, Tripoli

The Italian Embassy in Tripoli will probably be the last to go if Libya's relations with the West continue to deteriorate.

Not only are economic ties between Libya and Italy the most important of any Western European country, they are also reinforced by ties dating back to the Italian colonial period.

Recent demands by Colonel Gaddafi that Italy should pay up to £5 billion in compensation for "war damage" in the colonial period, appear to have been at least temporarily shelved after a cordial meeting in Tripoli this year between the Libyan leader and Italy's Foreign Minister, Signor Giulio Andreotti.

According to the Italian Ambassador, Signor Alessandro Quaroni, there are about 14,000 Italian citizens living and working in Libya. Until five years ago there were 20,000, but, as Libyan oil revenues declined, so did employment opportunities.

Italy is also an important market for Libyan oil, and several Libyans in important government posts are still Italian-educated. If English has become the principal foreign language, especially in business circles, many Libyans, even in rural areas, still speak Italian.

Tripoli's seaford and its palm-lined promenade have a distinctly Italian air about them. Italian architects laid out the town's avenues, with the cathedral - now a mosque - still in a central position opposite the main post office. In the heavy architectural style of Mussolini's public buildings.

The schoolchildren pouring out of two schools opposite Tripoli's "Italian market" are turned out in the same blue or black uniforms as their counterparts in Italy.

The Libyans' revolutionary authorities have closed all Christian churches except one, which is managed by Italian Franciscans. Roman Catholic priests may not wear their habits in Libya, but otherwise they are not disturbed.

£283m Airbus order expected to be lost

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Anglo-Libyan crisis is almost certain to have sealed the fate of a £283m order from Libyan Arab Airlines for 10 European Airbus jets.

The badly needed order, placed in the summer of 1981, has been dropped by problems stemming from a decision by the United States Government at the end of that year to block the sale by refusing to authorize the export of General Electric engines. Washington feared that the Airbus might be used for military purposes.

Since then, the Airbus Industrie consortium, in which British Aerospace has a 20 per cent stake, has explored ways of fulfilling the order, including equipping the planes with British-made Rolls-Royce RB-211-524 engines.

That solution now appears to be out of the question after the break in relations between Britain and Libya and the four

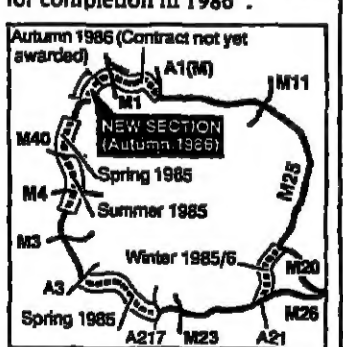
£27m route to link M1 with M4

A £27m contract for a section of London's M25 orbital motorway near Watford will for the first time provide a direct motorway link between the M4 to Wales and the West and the M1 to Scotland and the North on completion in late 1986 (our Transport Editor writes).

With two further sections, between Rickmansworth and Heathrow due to be completed next spring, it will provide a fast link from the North to Heathrow airport, London, and to the holiday areas in the West and South.

On its completion in two-and-a-half years' time, only one link of the 122-mile M25 - that between the M1 and the A1 - will remain to be built, and that should follow soon afterwards.

Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, said yesterday that Britain's "top priority road" was on "target for completion in 1986".



Soldier is shot dead in IRA riot ambush

From Richard Ford, Londonderry

The parents of a Provisional IRA bomber buried their son in Londonderry yesterday as the family of Private Neil Clarke mourned his killing by terrorists in the same city.

Private Clarke, single, aged 20, died in a petrol bomb attack on an Army patrol by rioters using their latest weapon, a glass sweet jar filled with petrol and washing-up liquid. He was shot in the head by gunmen, who had used the rioters as a cover before they opened fire with automatic weapons.

The sweet jars hit vehicles, engulfing them in flames before forcing police officers and soldiers to abandon them and run for safety. Masked rioters are able to throw the bombs with much greater and dangerous effect than the usual petrol-filled milk bottles.

A few hours after Private Clarke, of Margate, Kent, died, 2,000 mourners followed the coffin of Richard Quigley, aged 20, from the Longtower Roman Catholic Chapel, which overlooks the Bogside area. He died when a bomb he planted to kill members of the security forces on Saturday night exploded.

The Provisional IRA in Londonderry admitted that Quigley was one of their members but his family requested that there should not be a paramilitary funeral. The police presence was smaller than for other recent Pro-

£45m microchip project

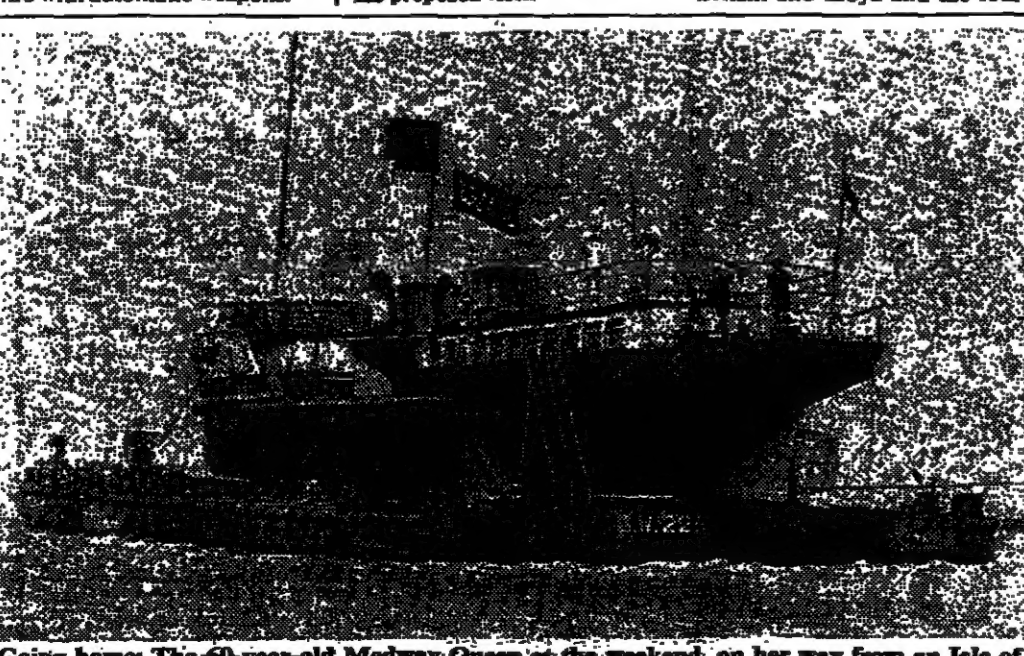
By Bill Johnstone, Technology Correspondent

The Japanese semiconductor manufacturing company NEC has confirmed that it will build a microchip manufacturing plant costing about £45m next to its present assembly centre in Livingston, near Edinburgh.

The decision is a vote of confidence in Scotland as a base for semiconductor factories and compares favourably with recent expansion plans announced by Motorola of East Kilbride (£50m) and National

Semiconductor (£100m) at Greenock. The assembly and test centre which cost £15m was opened last summer by the Queen. The second phase which will begin next March will provide NEC with a full production plant.

About three million microchips a month and other integrated circuits are to be produced. In full production more than 600 jobs will be created.



Going home: The 60-year-old Medway Queen at the weekend, on her way from an Isle of Wight mudbank to Chatham, to become a museum (Photograph Jonathan Eastland).

Milk quotas imposed reluctantly

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

More than 50,000 dairy farmers in Britain and Northern Ireland have been sent computer printouts advising them of their production quotas for this year and warning them that any excess will be liable to a penal levy.

The Milk Marketing Board for England and Wales admits that it is operating the EEC-imposed scheme "with reluctance", having from the start opposed quotas and favoured lower prices as the best means of bringing supply into line with demand.

The Northern Ireland board goes further in saying that it is imposing quotas "under protest". An official said: "We feel our case is being misinterpreted and that we are not getting the special treatment we were promised."

The 9,000 producers in Northern Ireland, most of them

small farmers, had been assured of comparable treatment to their colleagues in the Irish Republic, he said.

But, despite a paper allocation of an extra 65,000 tonnes, which would have amounted to an increase of about 4½ per cent on the 1983 total, they were being told to cut back by 9 per cent, like farmers everywhere else in the United Kingdom.

The England and Wales board is also having difficulty in allocating quotas for the so-called producer-retailers, who sell their milk directly to shops, and for those who make cheese on their farms. There are about 5,000 of them, accounting for about 400 million litres out of last year's total production of 13,655 million litres.

The board was established in 1933, under strong pressure from the National Farmers' Union, which wanted an end to the price competition which was forcing farmers out of business.

It is described as an "obligatory cooperative", all producers of milk for sale, including processor-retailers, must register with the board and dairy companies, such as Unigate and Express, must buy their supplies from it.

The board said yesterday that it was still too early to assess how farmers were responding to the demand to cut their production. But the general mood appeared to be one of "quiet resignation".

Doorstep deliveries would continue to have priority and there was no sign as yet that the opening of the British market to EEC (long life) imports from other EEC countries was having much effect.

CND plans to blockade US Embassy

By Pat Healy

Supporters of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament are planning to blockade the United States Embassy in Grosvenor Square, London, on June 9 to protest against United States nuclear weapons and bases in Britain. President Reagan will be in London at the time for an economic summit.

The demonstration is likely to bring peace protesters into direct conflict with the police who must keep open access to the embassy. CND organizers spent some time discussing their plans with senior police officers at Scotland Yard yesterday, and were given the impression that the demonstration will be policed in the normal way.

They were also told that the police would cooperate fully with a more traditional rally to be held simultaneously by the CND in Trafalgar Square.

Labour Party expected to expel six Militants

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Six supporters of the Militant Tendency, whose secret tactics for the alleged takeover of a local Labour party were exposed by a defector from their ranks, are expected to be thrown out of the Labour Party today in its latest offensive against the Trotskyist grouping.

Labour's national executive committee will almost certainly confirm the decision to expel the six from the Blackburn Labour Party for contravening the party's constitution. The move comes after the disclosure by Mr Michael Gregory, one of the Tendency's former supporters, of alleged minutes of Militant branch meetings in the area which discussed plans to take control of the general management committee and oust the Labour MP, Mr Jack Straw.

They gave notice yesterday that they would be lobbying today's meeting at Labour headquarters in south London to demand the right to put their

case. But at a press conference in London they appeared to have little optimism about their fate and pledged to appeal against expulsion at the annual conference in the autumn.

Today's decision will be the biggest blow for Militant since the five members of its newspaper's editorial board were expelled at the Brighton conference last year. It comes in the wake of other recent setbacks.

The six expected to be expelled are Mr Peter Harris, Miss Rosina Harris, Mr Simon Bush, Mr Des Mulcahy, Miss Mary Orange and Miss Kay Wright.

Mr Gregory's dossier alleged that Militant members inside the Blackburn party had to attend their own weekly branch meetings and caucus meetings in their trade unions, as well as paying weekly dues to the Tendency.

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Park studies offer of land used as firing range

The Peak Park Joint Planning Board is to meet on Friday to decide whether to accept from the Government about 4,300 acres carrying the proviso that part of it should be used for military training.

The land forms part of the Calke Abbey estate and was accepted by the Treasury last month in lieu of tax. It has been classed by the Countryside Commission as of heritage quality.

Having agreed to accept the land from the trustees of the Harpur-Crewe estate, in part settlement of an £8m tax bill,

Fire death toll rises to six

Mr James Doyle, aged 53, died in Glasgow yesterday, nine days after a fire which killed three of his sons, a daughter, and grandson.

Another son, Daniel, aged 28, is in a critical condition and his brother, Stephen, aged 21, is said to be satisfactory. The police believe that the fire was started deliberately.

Overseas selling prices: Australia \$1.20, Belgium 1.10, Canada 1.10, Denmark 1.10, France 1.10, Germany 1.10, Greece 1.10, Hong Kong 1.10, India 1.10, Italy 1.10, Japan 1.10, Korea 1.10, Malaysia 1.10, Mexico 1.10, Netherlands 1.10, New Zealand 1.10, Norway 1.10, Portugal 1.10, Singapore 1.10, South Africa 1.10, Spain 1.10, Sweden 1.10, Switzerland 1.10, Taiwan 1.10, Thailand 1.10, United Kingdom 1.10, USA 1.10, West Germany 1.10.

Forged £50 notes found on Continent as arrest total rises to 92

By David Cross

The hunt for clues to the gang which has masterminded the forgery of hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of £50 notes spread to the Continent yesterday.

According to Scotland Yard the number of arrests of people charged with either passing or possessing the forged notes has risen to 92, while the Dutch and the French police announced that they had arrested British citizens trying to pass counterfeit notes. Other forged notes were reported to have been found in Spain.

Police forces in all three countries are helping Scotland Yard's counterfeit currency squad, which is coordinating the search for the gang through the Interpol network.

The Amsterdam police said that a man aged 24, from Hackney, east London, had been arrested on Friday night when he tried to change a forged £50 note into Dutch currency at Schiphol airport. When he was searched he was found to be carrying counterfeit notes with a face value of £12,000.

About 4,000 of the counterfeit notes have been recovered with a face value of £200,000, but this is believed to be only the tip of the iceberg. The total could run into many millions of pounds.

The forgeries, which are said to be very good photocopies, began appearing all over the country during the Easter period when the banks were closed and shop cashiers were trying to cope with the holiday rush. Seaside resorts such as Southend and Brighton, as well as shops such as Selfridges in the West End of London were among the main targets.

All of those arrested so far are believed to be distributors rather than the counterfeiters themselves, who may be based in east or north London.

The forgeries are relatively easy to detect because the metal strip which runs through genuine notes is missing and watermarks are poor in quality or non-existent.

Among those charged yesterday were: Christopher Lambert, aged 27, and his brother Frederick, aged 24, of Mora Street, Islington north London. They were charged at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court in west London with passing a counterfeit £50 note at the Olympus Sports Shop in Oxford Street last Friday and having six forged £50 notes in their possession.

Barry Cole, aged 30, of Greystone House, Radnor Street, Islington, unemployed, was accused at the same court

of having four forged notes last Saturday and passing similar notes at shops in Charing Cross Road and Wardour Street, Soho.

Michael McCarthy, aged 29, a self-employed painter of Allen Road, Bow, east London, was charged with trying to pass a forged £50 note at a record shop in Oxford Street last Friday.

John Scholey, aged 27, of Marston Gardens, Merton, Surrey, was charged at Bow Street Magistrates' Court with passing a counterfeit note at Charing Cross Station last Saturday.

David Clarke, a taxi driver aged 25, of Fir Tree Avenue, West Drayton, West London, was accused at Newport Pagani, Buckinghamshire, with possessing and passing a counterfeit note when he was arrested at Newport Pagani Service Station on MI last Saturday.

At Highbury Magistrates' Court, north London, Robert Griffiths, aged 24, unemployed, of Hathaway House, Hoxton, east London, Patrick Bracken, aged 24, of Stanway Street, Islington and Philip Street, Islington, both painters and decorators, were charged with possessing 23 forged £50 notes at Essex Road, Islington, last Friday.

Nurse's death 'an heroic example'

The courage and ideals of Barbara Chick, the nurse from Bristol who died in the Falkland Islands hospital fire, should rank alongside those of Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell, mourners at a funeral service were told yesterday.

Miss Chick, aged 35, from Burford Grove, Shirehampton, Bristol, died earlier this month while trying to save a patient from the Port Stanley hospital in a fire which claimed eight lives. She had earlier saved four patients.

Her death robbed the world of a "wonderful, dedicated nurse", the Rev Tony Wheeler said in his address to more than 150 mourners in the parish church at Shirehampton.

"But, in her heroic death, she has provided a supreme example of the highest ideals of her great and noble profession which will live for ever and stand alongside that of Florence Nightingale and Edith Cavell."

"It is my hope and prayer that her supreme sacrifice and total dedication will inspire many young men and women to offer themselves for a career in nursing."

Among mourners in St Mary's Church were the Lord Mayor of Bristol, Mr Fred

Apperly, and nurses from all over the West Country.

Also present were former Falkland Islanders living in Bristol and a representative from the Falkland Islands Office in London.

More than 100 members of the public watched outside the church as the coffin, decked with red and white flowers, was taken in.

Floral tributes from Falkland Islanders and organizations, including the staff at Port Stanley hospital, were laid along the church path.

The family mourners were led by Miss Chick's father, John, and his wife, Marian, a former nurse. Her sister Mary, aged 32, also a nurse, and her husband, Mr Richard Harvey, of Clevedon, near Bristol, followed.

After the brief ceremony there was a private cremation. Mr Wheeler, the assistant curate, told mourners: "Barbara died as she had lived with her patients to the last, with no thought of herself but only for those in her care."

Her parents have asked that her ashes should be returned to the Falklands.

A ward at the rebuilt Port Stanley hospital will be named after Miss Chick, who trained at Manor Park Hospital, Bristol.

Glue traps for mice 'inhumane'

A controversy over "vicious and inhumane" mouse traps which stick their victims with a type of super-glue has broken out in the Thames Valley after one of the traps was handed into an animal sanctuary.

Each time the card is inserted, the meter electronically subtracts a unit. The number remaining can be checked by inserting the card in the opposite direction.

The new "Cardpark" meter would help to eliminate theft from meters and prevent vandalism while motorists would no longer have to search

Mrs Doris Gash, who runs the sanctuary at Titchmarsh, Berkshire, yesterday called for the mousetrap, imported from the United States, to be banned. Last night the RSPCA also criticized the glue traps as cruel.

The trap, which uses a super-glue to catch mice and rats, is being used extensively by several firms in the Thames Valley. Mrs Gash said that any animal caught by the glue died slowly and painfully; it starved to death.

Mrs UK in Slough said that the traps were being used by the company.

Mr Loxley Ryan, for the company said: "We make absolutely sure that none of the trapped animals is caused unnecessary distress."

Coinless parking to beat meter thieves

A parking meter that needs no coins could revolutionize parking controls in London and other cities and lead to worldwide sales for GEC which developed it (Our Transport Editor writes).

The motorist uses a card which would be on sale from shops, bars, and dispensing machines. Each insertion of the card buys 20 minutes of parking, and the card provides 100 units.

Each time the card is inserted, the meter electronically subtracts a unit. The number remaining can be checked by inserting the card in the opposite direction.

The new "Cardpark" meter would help to eliminate theft from meters and prevent vandalism while motorists would no longer have to search

for the right change when parking.

It would also increase profits from parking meters for local authorities. Many make a loss because emptying and servicing coin meters often costs more than the revenue collected.

The new meter gives Britain a world lead. No firm orders have been placed but "some really big orders are in the pipeline" at about £250 apiece, a spokesman for GEC Traffic Automation, Boreham Wood, Hertfordshire, said yesterday.

"Theft and vandalism from conventional parking meters have grown to enormous proportions all around the world, with thieves even going so far as ripping out whole meters to get at the money," GEC said.

Animal tests attacked

Some of the scientists involved in research into the biological activity of drugs, cosmetics, detergents, agricultural chemicals, and other products have sided with animal welfare groups. They have done so by condemning one of the two most controversial experiments used by the British Toxicological Society proposes an alternative

to the so-called LD50 test, which is the shorthand for estimating the quantity of a substance which if fed to a group of animals will kill half.

Proposals published in the latest issue of *Human Toxicology* suggest that "there are few instances where LD50 values determined with great precision can be ethically or scientifically justified."

Montego joins battle for road space

Austin Rover dealerships throughout the country held showroom parties last night to celebrate today's launch of the New Montego family saloon (Clifford Webb writes).

It is the state-owned company's first "designed for the job" contender in the upper medium sector which accounts for more than one in four of all cars sold in Britain.

The new arrival will be pitched straight into the fierce battle being waged between Ford's trendy Sierra and the much fancied Vauxhall Cavalier. Montego prices varying from £5,281 to £8,244 undercut both rivals throughout its eight-strong range of four-door saloons powered by 1.3, 1.6, and 2.0 litre engines.



The Austin Montego: Challenging Ford and Vauxhall.

At 14ft 6in the Montego is 16 inches longer than the hatchback Maestro and a few inches longer than both the Sierra and the Cavalier. Although it shares many parts with the Maestro, it is not just a stretched version of the earlier car.

Special report, pages 14 and 15

Snub for Beatles campaign

Three people who started campaigning seven years ago for a monument to the Beatles in Liverpool have been left off the guest list for the unveiling of a memorial statue tomorrow.

The £40,000 sculpture is in a new Royal Life complex. Royal Life said: "This particular statue has been commissioned and paid for by Royal Life." Their only obligation to Mr John Chambers, one of the founders of the Beatles Monument Campaign, was "to keep him informed".

Labour driver case adjourned

The case against a man accused of assaulting the driver of Mr Roy Hattersley, the deputy Labour leader, in an incident in Devon on April 7 was adjourned for a week by magistrates at Toucey yesterday. Paul Keeby, aged 19, a machine operator, of Pentland Close, Southway, Plymouth, is charged with causing actual bodily harm to Mr Roy Hill, assistant regional organizer of the Labour Party, at Marley Cross on the A38 in Devon.

Eight questioned on alleged rapes

Eight men were being questioned by the police yesterday about two claims of rape during weekend violence involving motor cyclists at a camp site near Cheddar Gorge in Somerset.

The police say that violence started when 70 people, who were listening to a mobile discotheque, were joined by 40 motor cyclists. Shots were fired during the fighting.

Radioactivity tests to end

Tests on people living near the Sellafield nuclear complex in Cumbria have shown safe levels of radioactive material in their bodies and the monitoring will end today, the National Radiological Protection Board said yesterday.

The board has been monitoring more than 100 residents in the village of Seascale since last Tuesday. A small number had higher than normal radioactive levels but a spokesman said: "They were not high enough to give rise to concern."

Law Society stops conveyancing cut

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Plans by 50 Liverpool solicitors to launch a cut-price conveyancing company on May 1 have been shelved after a strong warning from the Law Society.

The solicitors, from six firms, were proposing to launch a company, Conveyancing Exchange, under which they would offer clients conveyancing at cheaper, fixed rates.

But yesterday Mr Tony Ostrin, one of the solicitors involved, said the firms had decided to wait until the Law Society had altered its regulations, which at present prohibit advertising.

"Nobody wanted to fall out with the Law Society", he said. "We have come to a truce with them. We understand that the regulations may be altered at a meeting in May and we have decided to wait until then."

He said that none of the solicitors involved wanted to be struck off. "The Law Society

did not actually threaten us, but there is always the danger that one can get into difficulties."

Two weeks ago Mr Ostrin and the other solicitors announced plans to offer cut-price conveyancing from May 1 at rates a quarter cheaper than normally charged. They had made no approach to the Law Society.

The publicity surrounding their proposals prompted a strongly-worded telex message from the Law Society, which was released to the national press, in which the society delivered a "demand for explanation with warning."

It said that in the council's view the solicitors were "tempting through your current publicity and the proposals you have in mind to preempt the council's decision on any revision of the rules which will be taken after due consideration of the interests of the public and of the profession."

Smugglers of stolen videos are held

A lucrative trade in smuggling hundreds of stolen video recorders into Spanish holiday resorts has been broken by the police.

Detectors investigating the theft of videos in Britain discovered that many ended in Spain, where because of import regulations machines cost about £1,000.

British criminals living in Spain organized the trade, buying stolen machines for an average of £150.

Because of the poor quality of Spanish television videos are in great demand, particularly by expatriates and longer-stay holidaymakers.

The police, who were yesterday questioning several people in West Yorkshire, know the names of top London criminals behind the scheme.

One detective involved said: "Literally hundreds of videos and caravans stolen in this country are in Spain."

Old people are the 'most adventurous travellers'

By Robin Young

Pensioners are Britain's most adventurous travellers, according to Mr Roger De Haan, managing director of Saga Holidays. He was launching yesterday a brochure which promised grandparents trekking in the Himalayan foothills, safaris in Kenya, and excursions by elephant in India.

The inimitable underdog of the elderly, Mr De Haan said had made Saga the world's largest tour operator to Transylvania, as well as British Rail's most important passenger customer.

The company, founded 33 years ago as the Old People's Holiday Bureau will take 250,000 old people on holiday this year. Two thousand five hundred will explore the painted monasteries of the Carpathian mountains, while more will cruise up the Nile, cruise down the Danube, or tread in the footsteps of the golden horde of the Mongol Empire.

Mr De Haan said: "Our passengers are the people who pioneered package holidays to the Mediterranean in the 1950s. Now that they have retired they want to see something a bit different."

India had proved a spectacular success, Mr De Haan said, so this year the company was including the option of holidaying on a houseboat in Kashmir.

Kenya had been added because many soldiers who served there during the Mau Mau emergency were retired and might yearn to see Kilimanjaro again.

Saga, which discreetly maintains a nurse at all important destinations and offers vicars free holidays for undertaking pastoral duties, goes nowhere in season. "We spend our lives finding places that are empty while still attractive and then negotiating prices which only just cover the hotel's costs."

The result, he said, is that the cheapest full-board holidays in winter cost less than the state pension.

Law Society picks child care panels

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

Panels of expert solicitors to represent children in care proceedings are to be set up by the Law Society to improve standards.

The setting up of panels, along the lines of panels of specialist solicitors for mental health tribunals, coincides with government regulations which come into force next month.

Under provisions of the Children Act, 1975, a "guardian ad litem" will be appointed to look after the child's interests where a juvenile court is hearing a local authority application to take him or her into care.

Under original government proposals, the guardian would also represent the child in court. But after warnings from the Law Society that such plans could damage the child's interests, the Government has agreed that solicitors should represent the child unless the court directs otherwise.

Mr Andrew Lockley, secretary of the Law Society's family law committee, said: "A social worker might simply have reported all the local authority arguments."

Survey criticizes airlines over Europe fares

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Air fares in Europe are up to twice those for comparable distances in the United States, a new survey by the International Chamber of Commerce in Paris shows.

It says there is "no real competition in the price sense" between Europe's airlines, which instead pool their services between European cities, producing identical pricing and standards of service.

As reported in *The Times* on Monday, Britain is to make a fresh attempt for cheaper fares and more competition at the Council of Ministers on May 10, but the survey suggests that progress on that front will not be easy.

In an effort to get lower fares for business executives who are forced to use scheduled flights, the Brussels commission published a memorandum in February seeking to bring air travel within the competition rules of the Treaty of Rome, a move that will receive strong support from Britain next month.

European airlines defend their fares by pointing to higher crew costs (double those of the US); higher fuel prices (45 per cent higher than in US); higher maintenance costs (75 per cent higher); and landing charges (up to five times higher), the survey says.

Laskys Easter Sale.

(With these prices, you can still afford a holiday.)

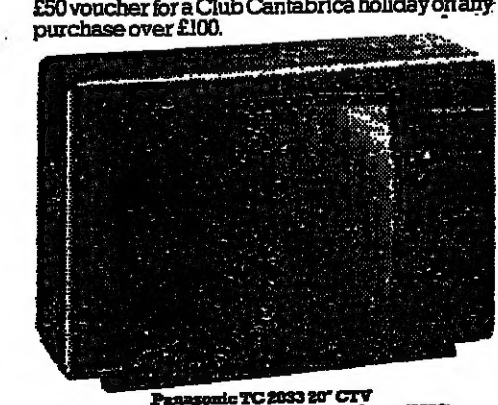
Our assistants will be more than happy to demonstrate any of our huge range of top name computers, videos, hi-fis and televisions.

And as we're specialists, you won't get lost in a maze of freezers and washing machines.

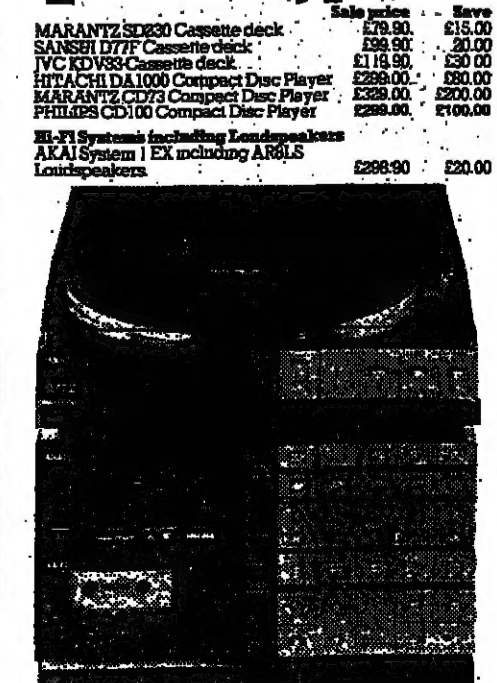
Having made what you want easier to find, we've also made it easier to buy.

Instant credit of up to £1,000 is available and repayments can be spread over 3 years.

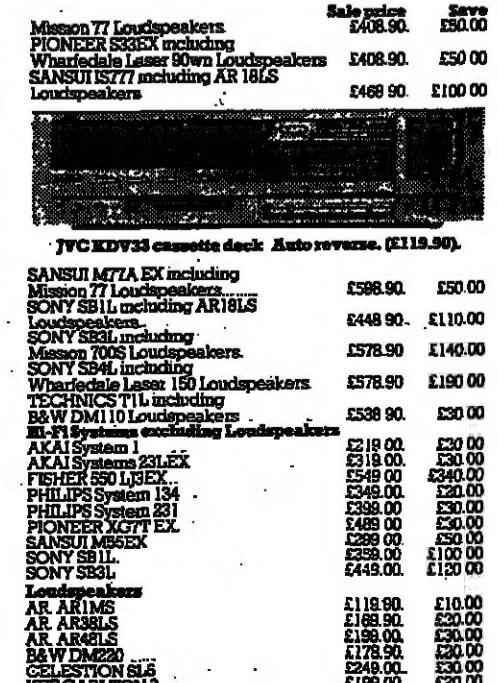
And to help you on your way there is a special £50 voucher for a Club Cantabrica holiday on any purchase over £100.



Panasonic TV 2023 20" CRT Ultra red remote control, 2-way speakers, (£299).



Alkal 231, Midl System. Speakers not included. 25 w.p.c. Dolby B+C cassette FM/AM/FM stereo tuner. Fully auto tunable. (£329).



Alkal 231, Midl System. Speakers not included. 25 w.p.c. Dolby B+C cassette FM/AM/FM stereo tuner. Fully auto tunable. (£329).



Alkal 231, Midl System. Speakers not included. 25 w.p.c. Dolby B+C cassette FM/AM/FM stereo tuner. Fully auto tunable. (£329).

Item	Sale price	Save
MARANTZ SD600 Cassette deck	£79.90	£15.00
SANSUI D777 Cassette deck	£59.90	£10.00
IVC KD1000 Compact Disc Player	£119.90	£30.00
HITACHI DA1000 Compact Disc Player	£299.00	£50.00
MARANTZ CD200 Compact Disc Player	£299.00	£50.00
PHILIPS CD100 Compact Disc Player	£299.00	£50.00
EL-FL Systems including Loudspeakers		
AKAI System 1 EX including AR18LS Loudspeakers	£299.90	£20.00
Video Recorders		
Mission 77 Loudspeakers		
PIONEER 300EX including		
Wharfedale Laser 50W Loudspeakers	£498.00	£50.00
SANSUI IS777 including AR 18LS Loudspeakers	£498.00	£100.00
Video Players		
IVC KD735 cassette deck. Auto reverse. (£119.90).		
SANSUI M77A EX including Mission 77 Loudspeakers	£398.00	£50.00
PIONEER 300EX including AR18LS Loudspeakers	£448.00	£110.00
SONY S800 including Mission 700 Loudspeakers	£578.00	£140.00
SONY S940 including Wharfedale Laser 150 Loudspeakers	£578.00	£180.00
IVC KD735 including B&W DM110 Loudspeakers	£538.00	£30.00
EL-FL Systems including Loudspeakers		
AKAI System 1	£218.00	£20.00
AKAI System 231EX	£218.00	£30.00
PHILIPS System 134	£248.00	£20.00
PHILIPS System 231	£248.00	£30.00
PIONEER K77 EX	£248.00	£30.00
SANSUI M955X	£298.00	£50.00
SONY S81L	£248.00	£120.00
SONY S81L	£248.00	£120.00
Loudspeakers		
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£10.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£20.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£30.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£40.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£50.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£60.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£70.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£80.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£90.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£100.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£110.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£120.00
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AR AR18LS	£118.00	£170.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£180.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£190.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£200.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£210.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£220.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£230.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£240.00
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AR AR18LS	£118.00	£330.00
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AR AR18LS	£118.00	£420.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£430.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£440.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£450.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£460.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£470.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£480.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£490.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£500.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£510.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£520.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£530.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£540.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£550.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£560.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£570.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£580.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£590.00
AR AR18LS	£118.00	£60

Decision day for Telecom prices as Tebbit finalizes sale strategy

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

The board of British Telecom, the state owned telecommunications group, will meet today and attempt to decide on its policy governing future telephone price increases before a ministerial statement next week on the company's privatization.

It is the Government's intention to outline the strategy of the sale next Wednesday and define the constraints imposed on British Telecom's price increases. The Government appears keen on ensuring that any increase would be 3 per cent less than the retail price index.

That constraint is crucial to the successful flotation of the shares. Senior management at British Telecom want to ensure that the company will not be prevented from bringing the rentals of domestic telephones into line with those charged to businesses.

The differential for years has disturbed British Telecom whose four million business subscribers, in a telephone population of more than 20 million, generates more than 60 per cent of the group's revenue.

The board meeting today must also attempt to decide on the capital structure of the company, that is, its ratio of

debt to equity. The decision is critical if a successful flotation is to be made in late autumn. It is the Government's intention to sell 51 per cent of the privatized British Telecom, made possible by the recent passage of the Telecommunications Bill in the hope of raising £4,000m.

The British Telecom board has sometimes been at odds with the Government's desire to make the shareholding of the company as broad based as possible.

Subscribers are to be encouraged to buy shares and offered



Mr Tebbit: Outline of strategy next week.

vouchers which they can set against their telephone bills, one favoured proposal is to offer six months free rental to purchasers of every £500 batch of shares but with a ceiling on that refund, about £2,000 to £3,000. The offer will be a one off to encourage the sale of the shares. The cost of that rebate is to be paid by the Government out of the proceeds of the sale.

It is the intention to offer the 51 per cent of the group for sale in one issue but the purchasers would pay for them over 18 months.

Next week in parallel with the ministerial statement, expected to be made by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, or another senior industry minister, a letter will be sent by British Telecom to its employees outlining the details of the sale of shares to them. They are to be offered special rates.

British Telecom yesterday launched a special exhibition in Guildhall in the City of London to show the City the services offered by the group. Next week a similar exhibition will be staged showing what British Telecom does in the rest of the public network.

Orchestra's move set to upset Arts Council

An orchestra announced plans to establish itself in London yesterday as the Arts Council sought to persuade one of the capital's four symphony orchestras to move to the East Midlands.

The London Mozart Players, who until now have toured extensively in the Midlands and eastern England, are negotiating to make their home in the new 1,500-seat concert hall at the rebuilt Alexandra Palace in London.

The orchestra has just lost a £20,000 touring grant in the council's new strategy. It would also forfeit additional regional engagements as a result of the proposed disbanding of the Eastern Authorities Orchestral Association.

At Alexandra Palace, it plans to offer early evening programmes, timed to coincide with the closing of exhibitions and conferences at the leisure centre, due to open late in 1987. It is also examining the possibility of concerts in the park around Alexandra Palace.

The ensemble's plans are unlikely to please the Arts Council, which was seeking yesterday to persuade managing directors of the four large orchestras that the capital suffers from too much symphony music.



On the march: Sikh farmers from the Punjab village of Moga defy a curfew to demand the release of jailed members of the students' federation.

Holy man or murderer?

The saint who preaches rough justice

From Michael Hamiya, Amritsar

It is strange that the inspiration behind most of the killings, shootings and bombings in the battered Indian state of Punjab should be called a saint. But Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale is so called, as a result of his adoption 20 years ago by the previous Sant of Bhindranwale, a common enough Sikh first name and a corruption of the English word, general.

Sant Bhindranwale has taken up residence in the Akal Takht - Seat of Immortal Power - in the Golden Temple of Amritsar, where the spiritual and temporal authority of the Sikh religion is specifically located. He holds court in his dark, small room there, or more openly on the roof of the Langar, the huge restaurant, where any visitor of whatever religion can be assured of a free meal.

To interview him is a slightly eerie experience. He is surrounded by heavily turbaned and fiercely bearded warriors, all armed with self-loading rifles or Sterling sub-machine guns. He sports a 9mm automatic pistol and often wears a bandolier of ammunition across his chest. He does not admit to being a killer, or indeed a leader of killers, although the Indian authorities seem to be in no doubt of it.

A senior civil servant in the



Sant Bhindranwale: In the Seat of Immortal Power.

central Government acknowledged: "He is very much the high command of the terrorists" but, in the end, it seems that what we are arguing about is definition. He does not believe in killing, you see, because killing is what happens when you attack first.

"If someone does it in defence," the holy man says, "you can't call it killing." Sant Bhindranwale prefers to call it taking justice - a phrase which has many echoes among his followers.

One of his chief lieutenants, Mr. Harmander Singh Sandhu,

the general secretary of the recently outlawed Sikh Students Federation, puts it this way: "Traitors are to be eliminated. We call it justice, which has been denied to us in the Indian system."

The other holy man, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal, the so-called Dictator of the Morcha (the Sikh agitation) and president of the Akali Dal, the Sikh political party, is clearly under some threat from his Khomani-like colleague. And while Sant Longowal finds it extraordinarily difficult to be completely frank with the press, he was reported last week to have told a group of Sikh visitors from Germany that he, too, could be on his rival's hit list.

Sant Longowal was at pains to deny that he ever thought such a thing when I saw him, but there is no doubt that his secretary, Mr. Gurcharan Singh, need not be so coy. Mr. Gurcharan Singh was named by one of the killers of Surinder Singh Sodhi, a close disciple of Sant Bhindranwale, as chief plotter in the conspiracy.

"I can forgive him," Sant Bhindranwale gave a winty smile, "because it was me he planned to kill. But other Sikhs, as a whole, will not spare him." The example of one member of the conspiracy may give Mr. Gurcharan Singh cause to hesitate. Mr. Malik Singh Bhatia, a political leader, who was

also named in the same confession, came to Sant Bhindranwale and publicly confessed his fault. The Sant forgave him, standing on a rostrum, under a canopy before a large crowd of devotees.

Mr. Malik walked slowly away and shot dead as he crossed the road outside the temple moments later. "Of course, there is on way in which Sant Bhindranwale can be blamed for that death," Mr. Sandhu said. "After all, he has forgiven him. It was just that other people were infuriated by his traitorous behaviour."

Sant Bhindranwale is fairly dismissive of the Akali Dal, although technically he supports them and their aims in agitation. It is possible to detect, through a curl in his lip, that he feels that the moderates will sell out for a good deal less than will satisfy his aspirations for a free Sikh state.

As the beautiful fitting melody of the constant reading of *Guru Granth Sahib*, the Sikh Bible weaves in and out of the marble pillars of the temple, the Sant insists: "They have made plots to kill me to please the Government, and these are traitors who are sitting in the Akali Dal's folds. They are aiming to demoralize valiant Sikh youth who are taking injustice from guilty officials."

Meanwhile the killing continues. Six people died in Punjab in one day this week.

The rates rumpus: 3

Scattered clues to the capping formula

Rates vary enormously. Most households outside London pay well below £1,000 a year, while Harrods store in the capital faces a bill this year of well over £1,250,000. Differences of that kind depend mainly on property valuations. But there are several reasons for differences in the amounts charged by councils all over the country. Among Welsh districts, for example, Montgomery is charging 14p in the pound and Merthyr Tydfil 218p.

The difference is partly attributable to the varying costs of providing council services and wide variations in the valuations on which rateable values are based. But another part is political. It is the highest spenders that the Government wants to trap with rate capping.

Capping simply means fixing a ceiling above which councils are not allowed to levy a rate. Ratepayers who receive from capped councils rate demands above the government ceilings will be able to ignore them. But nobody can use that pretext for rejecting a rates demand this year.

Capping will not start until next April and most of the candidates have not yet been named. Neither has the

Ministers have not yet said how rate capping will work. But as HUGH CLAYTON, Local Government Correspondent, explains in the last of three articles, they have scattered several clues about their intentions.

Government announced a decision about how they will be chosen. The only certain thing about the method is that it will be complicated.

Like much else in local government finance, rate capping will operate through fixed formulae laid down in law. Once the formulae are activated, the system will clunk forward on its own. Ministers make much of the fact that rate capping is not vindictive.

But their opponents complain that the result can still be tailored to the Government's requirements. All ministers need to do is to fix a formula which happens conveniently to catch those councils that they want to catch. Ministers reply that it does not matter which formula is chosen, the most blatant "overspenders" are caught by all of them.

They have given several clues about the formula they will use in the summer to choose between 12 and 20 councils for the first phase of capping next

year. First, councils will not be able to escape rate capping by cutting their rates. One of the deepest rate cuts this year has been made by the Labour-led Greater London Council, an authority which ministers consider to be one of the most blatant "overspenders".

Second, councils with small budgets in local government terms will be left out, even if they are regarded by ministers as "overspenders". That should exempt the Labour-led council at Harlow, in Essex.

Third, they key element in the formula by which candidates for capping are chosen will not be the spending targets fixed for each council by ministers on the basis of its spending record in the recent past.

Instead the key criterion will be the gross revenue expenditure assessment (GREAs). That is a supposedly objective way of calculating how much a council needs to spend to provide an adequate level of services. It is

not the same as the target, but operates alongside it.

The trigger for rate capping will be 20 points above GREAs. In other words a council spending less than 20 per cent above its GREAs this year is unlikely to have its rates capped next year. Any council other than the smallest which spends well above 20 per cent more than GREAs is liable to be capped.

Ministers have already named three of the group of 12 to 20 authorities which will be capped next year. They are the Greater London Council, the Inner London Education Authority and Basildon district council in Essex. Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, has called Basildon "Moscow down the Thames."

That leaves between nine and 15 which have not yet been identified. It is safe to assume that several of them will be Labour-led borough councils in London. Spending by Camden, Greenwich and Lewisham this year will be more than 50 points above their GREAs. Hackney, Islington and Lambeth will be well over 30 points above. Some of them have imposed high rate increases. Concluded

Two-horse race to succeed Trudeau

From John Best, Ottawa

When Mr Pierre Trudeau decided two months ago to step down as Prime Minister of Canada, most observers considered it a foregone conclusion that his successor would be Mr John Turner, a Toronto corporation lawyer and former minister.

But Mr Turner is being given a run for his money by Mr Jean Chrétien, Minister of Energy and Resources, who has served in every federal Cabinet since the Trudeau reign began in 1968.

The result is that the race for the leadership of the ruling Liberal party - and the Prime Minister's job - has turned into a serious contest, rather than the widely expected easy romp for Mr Turner. There are seven candidates but the other five have not generated any momentum.

The consensus is that Mr Turner still leads Mr Chrétien by a substantial margin among committed delegates to the June 14 leadership convention in Ottawa.

Despite having been away from the federal political scene for eight years, the photogenic former Finance Minister still exercises a powerful attraction for Liberals across the land who see him, above all, as someone with enough political appeal to keep them in office.

The day he announced his candidacy on March 16, a dozen ministers jumped to his support. However, Mr Chrétien, more rough-hewn than the smooth and self-assured Mr Turner, has been chipping away at the front-runner's strengths.

Mr Chrétien has sought to exploit his position as a Trudeau loyalist while emphasizing that as Prime Minister he would be his own man. He would become the first French-Canadian to succeed another French-Canadian as Prime Minister.



Mr Turner: Smooth and self-assured.

Teenage courts pass sentence

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Teenage lawbreakers in some parts of the United States are having their sentences decided by juries of their own under-seventeen contemporaries.

The idea is to make young people familiar with, and part of, the justice system, to increase their sense of responsibility, and to reduce the resentment that young, and perhaps rebellious, offenders feel when they are sentenced.

It is felt that teenage lawbreakers are more likely to accept the justice of their sentences when they are de-

cided by people of their own age and experience.

Teenage courts exist in several parts of the country, in New York State, New Jersey and Texas. The west Texas town of Odessa has had a teenage court working for six months as an experiment, following the example set by three other towns in the state. The court does not try cases and their jurisdiction is limited to relatively minor offences, such as petty shoplifting, certain kinds of assault, under-age driving and speeding. Defendants who come before them

have already been convicted in the juvenile court.

A teenage sentencing jury sits with an adult judge. The facts in the cases are outlined by a teenager - and another teenager speaks in mitigation for the defendant. In typical cases the jury sentences offenders to do a number of hours of community service.

A sentence might also include an order to serve a number of times on a teenage jury: part of the process of building a sense of responsibility and involvement.

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South Africa makes deal with Mozambique to share Cahora Bassa power

From Michael Hornby, Johannesburg

Mozambique, Portugal and South Africa have reached a new agreement on the use of power from the Cahora Bassa hydroelectric scheme on the Zambezi in north-western Mozambique. It will be formally signed in Cape Town on May 2.

The agreement is another important strand in the web of commercial, economic and military accords intended to act as the binding agents of the new policy of "good neighbourliness" between South Africa and the black revolutionary regime in Mozambique.

The supply contract provides for South Africa to purchase at a much increased tariff up to 1,450 megawatts, about 8 per cent of the country's annual requirement, and to supply 90 megawatts to Maputo. The Mozambique capital, (Mozambique does not possess the transformer capacity to take power directly from Cahora Bassa).

Planned by Portugal, the former colonial power in Mozambique, financed largely by South Africa and built by a consortium of European engineering companies, Cahora Bassa began commercial operation in 1978, three years after Mozambique became independent.

The level of new tariff has not yet been disclosed, but Portugal, which is still responsible for paying off the huge loans raised to finance the dam, asked for a

200 per cent increase during negotiations. Under the old agreement Pretoria paid up to 30m rands (£28m) a year when the scheme was operating fully.

Since 1980 the power supply from the dam has been erratic, and there has been none at all since last October when guerrillas of the Mozambique rebel movement, Renamo, sabotaged the 480-mile transmission lines. The lines are still down and it is not clear how soon they can be made operational again.

There are benefits for both sides in getting the scheme back on its feet. The longer the delay, the longer it will take for the dam to become a source of revenue to Mozambique. At present all the revenue goes to Portugal, the principal shareholder, to pay off the building loans.

Once the scheme is operating fully, the agreement also provides for Mozambique to pay for the electricity it receives from the South African grid in local currency rather than in precious "hard" foreign currency. This could bring an immediate foreign exchange saving of about £550,000 a month.

For South Africa, Cahora Bassa is a useful external source of power. The Republic has no hydroelectric scheme and to generate the same capacity from a coal-fired plant would consume up to 70 million litres of

fresh water a day - not a negligible consideration in a water-short country.

The future of the dam will be seen as a test of South Africa's ability and determination to curb the activities of Renamo which, much convincing circumstantial evidence suggests, it has been covertly supporting ever since the Rhodesian Government of Mr Ian Smith, the rebels' original sponsor, went out of business.

Implicit in the terms of the security pact signed between Pretoria and Maputo on the banks of the Nkomati river on March 16 is a commitment by South Africa to cease support for Renamo, in return for action by Mozambique to curb the activities from its soil of the underground African National Congress (ANC).

Over the past few weeks there have been visible signs that Mozambique is keeping its side of the bargain, but less clear evidence that South Africa is doing the same (though Renamo propaganda broadcasts beamed from South African soil went off the air soon after the Nkomati signing).

In fact, Renamo guerrilla activity has intensified lately and has included sabotage of electricity supply from South Africa to Mozambique. For the moment, however, the authorities in Maputo seem to be accepting this as a last fling by Renamo.



Light relief: Mr Walter Mondale addresses supporters at Baltimore's City Hall and draws a laugh from the mayor, Mr William Schaefer

The war no one can win

Collective punishment in the Lebanese marketplace

From Robert Fisk, Nabatieh, Southern Lebanon

They were standing outside the fruit-stall at the north-western corner of the market place in Nabatieh, four tired, perspiring soldiers, their flak jackets open in the heat, leaning against the walls and the orange boxes. Their eyes were watching the roadway all the time.

"You can put the fruit out to air but you are forbidden to sell", the Israeli officer said over his shoulder to the Lebanese merchant, a plump man with a walrus moustache who thanked him obsequiously. The officer wore a *yarmouka* on his head and cradled a Galil assault rifle in his arms, right hand covering the trigger. A little collective punishment was going on.

"Who are you?" the officer asked when he saw us watching. "Are you tourists?" He paused. "Are you Jews?"

He was smiling slightly, as if relieved to see foreigners in a place where he was surrounded by so much hatred. He was young with black hair lying across his forehead.

When we asked why he was ordering the shops to close down, he replied at once. A young man had thrown a grenade from across the road at an Israeli foot patrol the previous day: one of the soldiers had been seriously wounded.

and flown to Rambam hospital in Haifa.

"We went and asked every shopkeeper if he saw the man with the grenade and everyone said he didn't see him", the officer concluded. He raised his eyebrows slightly.

But supposing the shopkeepers really did not see the grenade thrower, we asked. Was it fair to close the shops? The officer smiled again. "You must understand", he said slowly, "that this is an investigation. This is how we do the investigation."

But what, we asked, about the shooting earlier followed the explosion? A Nabatieh hospital had reported three people wounded by Israeli bullets. A bride had been taken to the clinic with shrapnel wounds to her face after she was hit in the local hairdresser's before her wedding.

The officer thought about this and one of his colleagues, a younger soldier with sandy hair and glasses, moved closer - still watching the road - to listen.

"These things happen because we shoot back", the officer said. "All we can do is shoot in the direction - the grenade came from. Yes, I heard there were wounded, but we have no choice. You must understand this. We just have to shoot to get the person."

Did the Israelis shoot the grenade-thrower? "No", the officer said.

The Lebanese merchant was pulling his trays of apples and oranges out of the sun and the soldiers talked for a while about the war - their war - that has not ended since they invaded Lebanon in 1982. The soldier with the sandy hair thought that "radical Shias" and Palestinians from "the Habash organization" were behind the attacks on them in Nabatieh.

Were they frightened? The officer looked at the Lebanese in the street who were looking at him. Then he shrugged his shoulders. "We get used to it", he said. But were the Israelis winning the war?

He still looked tired and the sweat was trickling down his face and on to the edge of his flak jacket. "No one can win", he replied. "This is a guerrilla war. It is always the same."

The officer nodded at the fruit merchant. "You are forbidden to sell anything", he repeated. The plump Lebanese stood and watched as the soldiers moved off the pavement to the street. Each said goodbye to us. The merchant they ignored.

Khomeini may seek way out of Gulf War

By Hazzir Teimourian

A report from Tehran suggests that Ayatollah Khomeini may be exploring ways to end the 3½-year-old war with Iraq. Last Thursday, he is understood to have summoned to his residence in north Tehran a critic of the war and former Foreign Minister of his regime, Mr Ebrahim Yazdi, to question him on what course the Government should now take.

Since Mr Yazdi has for some time advocated a peaceful settlement at the International Court of Justice at The Hague, the ayatollah must have known in advance what advice to expect. It is possible that his interest was therefore have been in the details of Mr Yazdi's proposals.

Mr Yazdi has declined to speak to the press about his meeting, but according to people close to him, he urged the ayatollah to settle the dispute by invoking in an international court the Algiers agreement of 1975 between the Shah and the present ruler of Iraq, President Saddam Hussein, which settled the border issue between the two countries. He also urged that heavy reparations be demanded from Baghdad because Iraq started the war in September, 1980.

There is no shortage of officials inside the regime who could have provided the ayatollah with similar advice. Mr Hashemi Rafsanjani, the speaker of the Majlis (Parliament) who has recently spoken of reparations as a basic peace condition without also demanding at the same time the overthrow of President Hussein, is thought to be among the would-be peace-makers.

Mr Yazdi, an American-educated pharmacist, who became Foreign Minister in the provisional Islamic Government of Mr Mehdi Bazargan in 1979, was one of the ayatollah's three closest advisers during his brief exile in France in 1978-1979.

After his dismissal he remained an MP, but was sometimes physically assaulted by other members when he sought to address the Assembly. Together with four other parliamentary colleagues belonging to Mr Bazargan's Freedom Movement, he did not contest the parliamentary elections of April 16 in protest at not being allowed to hold public meetings or publicize party views.

Up to half a million Iranian troops are reported to have been deployed along the borders with Iraq for the past few weeks. There is nervousness in Government circles in Tehran that if the troops were to fail to break through Iraq's defences, Iran's position in any subsequent peace talks would be weakened.

There are no indications that the ayatollah has definitely decided not to launch the long-awaited offensive, but his secret talks with a known opponent of his war policy may indicate a change of heart.

UK refusal blights Arab hopes

From Zoriana Pysarskiy, New York

Britain has joined the United States in opposing the convening of an international Middle-East conference under United Nations auspices, effectively ruling out the possibility that such a conference will ever get off the ground unless there is a radical change in the Middle-Eastern political landscape.

In a letter to the Security Council and the General Assembly, Sir John Thomson, the British representative, outlined the reasons for rejecting the plan based on the belief that only a conference convened at the initiative of all the parties in the Middle-East and holding some prospect for success can serve a useful purpose.

The initiative for the conference is of Arab origin, Israel fears that it would turn into a propaganda exercise against it. It would also mean that the Soviet Union would play an equal role with the US as guarantor of an agreement.

Howe visits South Korea steel works

Seoul (Reuters) - Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday visited a South Korean steel company which recently awarded a big contract to a British firm. Britain is trying to adjust a trade imbalance running at more than two to one in South Korea's favour.

Pohang Iron and Steel Company, owner of the steel mill, recently awarded a £28.5m contract to the Davy McKee Corporation, to provide a blast furnace for its second steel mill at Kang Yang Bay.

Sailing in the vodka armada

Moscow (Reuters) - Yachts intended for training young Soviet Olympic hopefuls are being used by senior sports officials for weekend cruises, according to *Komsomolskaya Pravda*.

The paper said that the yacht training centre outside Moscow had sold its small boats to raise money to fit out bigger vessels in luxury.

Price rise riots

Santo Domingo (AP) - Businessmen in the Dominican Republic joined young demonstrators for violent protests against government-ordered price increases in which stores were burnt and looted. Five people were reported killed, scores injured and nearly 300 arrested during clashes with police.

24 condemned

Banjul (Reuters) - Twenty-four people were sentenced to death for treason by a court here in the latest of a series of trials in The Gambia connected with a coup attempt in 1981. More than 50 people have now been sentenced to death but no executions have been carried out.

Artist deported

Bonn - Harald Naegeli, the Swiss graffiti artist who sought cultural asylum in West Germany after being sentenced to nine months imprisonment for defacing property in Zurich, was extradited yesterday to Switzerland to begin his sentence.

Nyerere choice

Dar es Salaam (AP) - President Nyerere of Tanzania has appointed his Foreign Minister, Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, as the country's new Prime Minister to replace Mr Edward (Sokojing) Njiru, who was killed in a car accident on April 12.

Strangler jailed

New York (Reuters) - Lawrence Foye, aged 22, convicted of strangling Lenore Gibbey, former wife of an heir to the Gibbey's gin fortune, was jailed here for between 25 years and life.

Flag burnt

Athens - More than 1,000 Armenian demonstrators, chanting Turkish slogans, broke through a police cordon here yesterday, and burnt a Turkish flag outside the Turkish Embassy to mark the 69th anniversary of the massacre of Armenians in Turkey in 1915.

Docks strike

Tokyo (AFP) - An estimated 60,000 Japanese dockers began an indefinite pay strike, boycotting export container cargo at 10 ports. A 24-hour walkout by pilots of a domestic airline forced cancellation of 262 flights.

Finns freed

Moscow (Reuters) - Two Finnish schoolboys, sentenced to a year in a Soviet labour camp for bathing naked in a Leningrad hotel fountain in January, have been allowed to go home. A Leningrad court changed the sentence to a two-year suspended term after fierce criticism in Finland.

Whale scare

Stockholm - A huge white whale, a surprise spring visitor to the Baltic, caused panic among passengers when it nearly collided with a ferry from the southern Swedish port of Helsingborg.

Dithering over race may have led to death

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

An investigation has been ordered by the Transvaal Provincial Administration into the death of a Coloured (mixed race) television announcer after allegations that doubt about his racial classification delayed emergency treatment for injuries he received in a car accident earlier this month.

It is alleged that Mr Vivian Solomon, the first Coloured announcer to be appointed on the television channel for white viewers, died while hospital staff dithered in deciding what race he was and to which section of the Klerksdorp Hospital he should be admitted.

A member of the Transvaal provincial government responsible for hospital services, Mr D. P. Kirsten, yesterday rejected the allegations and said Mr Solomon had been admitted immediately to a white surgical ward where attempts to resuscitate him failed.

Andreotti fails to break ice

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Despite some hopeful remarks about détente by President Chernenko yesterday Sir Geoffrey Howe and other Western politicians will have an uphill task reviving the East-West dialogue after this week's visit to Moscow by Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Foreign Minister, according to Western diplomats.

Signor Andreotti met President Chernenko yesterday in the Kremlin in what *Tass* described as a "businesslike and constructive atmosphere." On Monday, he held a day of talks with Mr Andrei Gromyko, the veteran Soviet Foreign Minister.

Yesterday, President Chernenko told Signor Andreotti that the deployment of new American missiles in Italy and other West European countries had "seriously aggravated the threat of war." This made it all the more important to return to détente, the Soviet leader said, adding that provided both sides were guided by the broad interests of peace and security Soviet-Italian relations could be viewed with greater confidence.

Argentina proposes steps to peace

From Our Correspondent, Paris

Argentina is proposing a policy of "small steps" towards a dialogue with Britain over the Falklands, Señor Dante Caputo, the Argentine Foreign Minister, said in Paris yesterday.

He said his country remained "extremely firm on the essential claim of sovereignty," but added that this firmness extended to the "necessity of a diplomatic dialogue with Britain." That was why Argentina wanted a series of informal talks without an agenda. "We believe in a diplomacy of dialogue," Señor Caputo said at a press conference at the end of one-day official visit to France.

Señor Caputo told me after the press conference that the small steps policy could start without any preconditions about sovereignty or anything else. "I have told London this. The important thing is to get around the table," he said.

His visit was ostensibly devoted to helping along negotiations on Argentina's \$43.8 billion (£31 billion) debt. However, it gave Señor Caputo the chance to talk about the Falklands, which he seemed anxious to do.

Earlier, at a lunch given by M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, he devoted a third of his speech to the Falklands.

Señor Caputo said his Government was "seeking to create favourable conditions for negotiations" with Britain while underlining that a final solution must include the question of sovereignty.

Rains help guerrillas to force back Vietnamese

From Neil Kelly, Bangkok

Unusually early rains along the Thai-Cambodian border have given resistance guerrillas the edge over Vietnamese troops bogged down with heavy hardware, according to General Arthit Kamlang-Ek, the Thai supreme military commander. He said yesterday the guerrillas were now taking the initiative and forcing the Vietnamese to retreat.

Although the Thai divisional commander on the most sensitive section of the border, Major General Pichit Kullavanich also said the Vietnamese were retreating, a senior official of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF), said last night that the Vietnamese still controlled the forward base alongside Ampil lake which

they captured 10 days ago. However, the guerrillas have recaptured some territory near the lake which has been applying water to 40,000 Cambodian civilians on the border and is also a useful source of fish.

The guerrillas and the Vietnamese soldiers are only 250 yards apart at the lake. Sixty Vietnamese shells yesterday fell among the guerrillas but wounded only three, according to the KPNLF official.

The chief of staff of the KPNLF army, General Sak Suthsakan has claimed that 500 Vietnamese have been killed at Ampil. He said his men had observed 13 trucks taking away the dead.

Indian troops in border clash

Delhi (Reuters) - Indian and Bangladeshi troops exchanged fire across their common border yesterday for several hours. An Indian officer was injured.

The spokesman said Bangladeshi riflemen opened fire yesterday morning at an Indian party building a 60-mile barbed wire fence along the Assam state border with Bangladesh.

Beirut battle claims two lives

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

Truce observers along a one-mile stretch of Beirut's "Green Line" ducked for cover yesterday as rival militiamen fought for several hours with rocket-propelled grenades, mortars and anti-aircraft weapons.

Exactly what sparked the outbreak of fighting - the worst since a ceasefire went into effect last Thursday - could not be determined. But at least two people were killed and five wounded along the frontline and in adjacent streets before the battles subsided.

The fighting came as a four-man security committee reached agreement on posting truce observers and police at three previously contested positions along the Green Line. Three people, including a Lebanese policeman serving with the buffer force, were killed in clashes near the contested sites on Monday.

Presidential sources said that President Gemayel of Lebanon was preparing to announce the formation of a new Government after his talks in Damascus last week with President Assad of Syria. Mr Gemayel is expected to name Mr Rashid Karami, aged 62, a pro-Syrian politician and former Prime Minister, to head the new "national unity" Cabinet, possibly before the weekend.



Heritage of war: A Beirut girl with her baby sister in her arms standing among the rubble of her ruined home

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Russians launch offensive against Afghans in Panjshir valley

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

A long-awaited Soviet offensive against the strategic Panjshir valley in Afghanistan has finally begun, according to Western diplomats in Delhi yesterday.

The valley, a long fertile strip running deep into the Hindu Kush north of the capital, Kabul, has been peaceful for more than a year thanks to an unofficial peace treaty between the Russians and the mujahidin leader in the valley, Mr Ahmed Shad Mahsood.

But when the treaty fell due for renewal at the beginning of the year, Mr Mahsood put too many excessive demands for the Soviet taste, and though they were apparently prepared to go some distance to accommodate him they were unable to agree.

Since then the Russians and Afghans have been massing troops at the various entrances to the valley in an attempt to seal it off. The mujahidin fighters have meanwhile been preparing themselves to tackle the invaders, and have sent many of their families and old people away to the relative safety of Kabul.

Before the peace agreement the Russians had tried on six occasions to subdue Mr Mahsood, each time without suc-

cess. A Western diplomat said here yesterday: "Panjshir seven has begun."

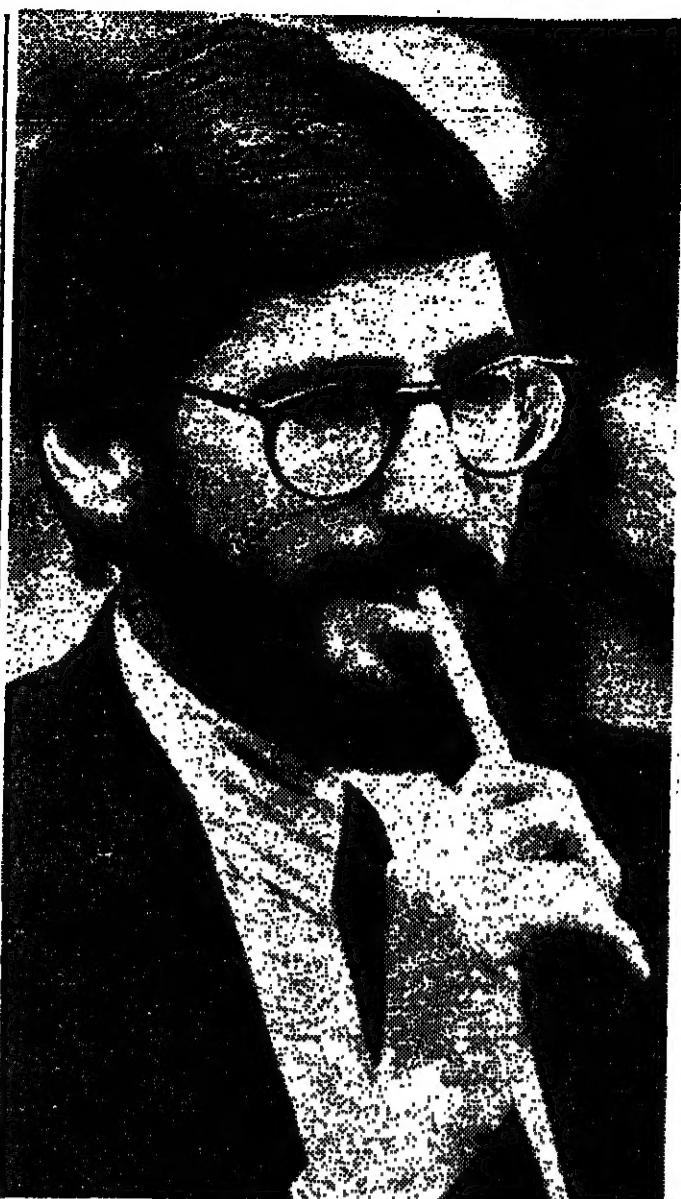
The campaign started at the weekend when high-level bombing raids were made and troops began to manoeuvre at the valley mouth.

The spark for the start to hostilities was apparently the blowing up of a bridge which was part of a mujahidin campaign to block all routes from the north.

According to the diplomats, several bridges on the road between Mazir-Sharif and Kabul have been destroyed. Matlak Bridge and Gilbahar Bridge were the two principal breaches, but the bridge at the entrance to the Panjshir was also destroyed of protest traffic taking an alternative route to the capital.

The Russian build-up has been reported by diplomats for some weeks. They have also reported that the Bagram airbase nearby has recently been reinforced.

A number of SU25 close-support bombers have been seen in Bagram. They were used to particularly good effect in previous Soviet onslaughts on the valley, and in recent days 35 Mi8 and Mi24 helicopters have been moved there.



John Landis: he could face six years in prison

Three will stand trial over film death stunt

Los Angeles (Reuters) - Film director John Landis and two colleagues have been ordered to stand trial for the involuntary manslaughter of actor Vic Morrow and two children while shooting a war scene for the film *Twilight Zone*.

If convicted, Landis and his colleagues, pilot Dorsey Wingo and the chief of a film special effects crew, Paul Stewart, could each be jailed for six years.

The ruling by municipal court Judge Brian Crabhan was made amid criticism from members of the film industry that an increasing public demand for more spectacular stunts was jeopardizing the lives of film crews.

Morrow, 53, and the children, Renee Chen, six, and Myca Din Lee, seven, were killed when a helicopter crashed on them during the shooting of a Vietnam war scene in July 1982.

Morrow was running with a child under each arm across a river bed on the outskirts of Los Angeles while fireballs exploded around them and the helicopter hovered overhead.

The prosecution alleged during the preliminary hearing that debris hurled into the air by a special effects explosion struck the helicopter, piloted by Wingo, causing the crash.

A dream turned sour

Decade of debt and stagnation

In the last of three articles on the inheritance of the revolution that overthrew Dr Marcello Caetano 10 years ago today, Richard Wigg discusses the gap between the expectations then aroused and present social and economic realities.

Portugal's 1974 revolution gave the country democracy, but the past 10 years have failed to change its main social institutions more than superficially.

"The revolution was radical because we emerged from an antiquated regime," said Professor Joao Miller Guerra, a Lisbon Socialist. "But social institutions, like education, health, the Church, the Administration and even the armed forces, have not undergone fundamental changes."

Professor Miller Guerra is a leading Lisbon doctor, who as a liberal opposed the Caetano regime and now regards himself as a rank-and-file member of Dr Mario Soares's ruling party.

"The young captains performed an immense role supporting the advent of democracy," he said, "but when the political parties did not need them to maintain the system, the upper middle



classes discovered they could continue their leadership through Parliament, and there was no need for totalitarianism any more."

Any fair judgment of the revolution must take account of the impact of the subsequent world economic depression. Portugal's foreign debt exceeds £9.5bn and only its reserves of gold stand between it and bankruptcy. The debts of 10 state enterprises at the end of last year were alone larger than the national budget.

Revolutionary rhetoric ill served Portugal's working classes, the poorest in Western Europe, by frightening the middle classes, who have quietly recovered lost terrain.

Education was not opened up by the revolution for greater social mobility. Egalitarian rhetoric in 1975 actually abolished state technical schools, so universities and the

"liberal" professions are still almost the only ladder to the top.

The Government's austerity measures have produced a cut of almost 16 per cent in this year's education budget compared with that for 1983.

A British-style national health service remains a revolutionary dream. It was put on the statute book under a Socialist Government in 1979, but the next government bowed to the doctors' bitter opposition and it was not implemented. The Supreme Court has just pronounced in favour of that original Socialist measure, but where are the funds now?

Portugal's infant mortality rate is three and a half times that of Sweden, tuberculosis is on the increase, and leprosy still exists in the backward north-east. Yet doctors abound in Lisbon. The bishops opposed limited abortion, and there is no sex education in schools.

Dr Vitor Constancao, a former Socialist finance minister and respected economist, observed recently that real wages, after an estimated 9 per cent fall last year, were now below the 1973 level.

Concluded

Leading article, page 17

Eanes abandons poll on abortion

From Our Own Correspondent, Lisbon

President Eanes has abandoned his proposal for holding a special referendum on limited abortion in Portugal and signed into law the Government measure passed by Parliament

in January. He signed only hours before the constitutional deadline expired yesterday.

As a practising Catholic, President Eanes doubtless bore in mind the vociferous public

campaign by Portugal's Catholic bishops while the bill was going through Parliament. They opposed legalizing even those abortions done to save a mother's life.

French break drug ring

Paris (AFP) - Police seized 110lb of opium and six tons of hashish, valued at £18m, over the weekend in the biggest haul of its kind in France.

Seven people were arrested,

including two brothers of Lebanese origin and four members of the Marseilles underworld.

Police said the hashish was shipped from a port in Lebanon.

European Law Report

Court of Justice of the European Communities

Enforcing European sex bias provisions

Von Colson and Kamann v Nordrhein-Westphalia

Case 14/83

Harz v Deutsche Tradax

Case 79/83

Before Judge J. Mertens de Wilmars, President, and Judges T. Koopmans, K. Bahlmann, Y. Galmot, P. Pescatore, Lord Mackenzie Stuart, A. O'Keefe, G. Bosco, O. Duc, U. Everling, C. Kakouris

Advocate General: Mme S. Rozes

[Judgment delivered April 10]

Two women applied for posts as social workers in a men's prison in Germany. Their applications were rejected on the ground of their sex: the prison authorities referred to the problems and risks associated with the employment of women in such institutions and, for those reasons, preferred male candidates even if they were less qualified.

Miss Harz applied for a job advertised in the press by Deutsche Tradax. Her application was rejected on the ground that the job was reserved for men. Deutsche Tradax delivered cereal products to Saudi Arabia. It was said that only men worked in the trade and, for religious and social reasons, a woman could not establish commercial relations or maintain existing business contacts there.

All three women brought proceedings before the German courts claiming that a contract of employment should be made or, alternatively, damages. One of them also claimed the travel costs incurred when she applied for the job. The German courts found that there had been discrimination on the ground of sex but considered that, under German law, they could only award travel costs.

They decided to refer the matter to the court for a preliminary ruling under article 177 of the EEC Treaty. In its judgment the Court of Justice of the European Communities held as follows:

Article 189 of the Treaty provided that Directives were binding on each member state to which they were addressed as to the result to be achieved but left to the national authorities the choice of form and methods. That gave the member state freedom to choose the ways and means of implementing a Directive but that freedom left untouched the obligation binding the member state to take all the measures necessary in its national legal system in order to ensure that the Directive was fully effective in accordance with its objective.

The objective of Directive 76/207 was the application in the member states of the principle of equal treatment between men and women by ensuring, in particular, that workers of either sex had in fact an equal opportunity of employment.

Article 2 defined the principle of equal treatment and its limits. Article 3(1) specified the scope of the principle in relation to access to jobs. Article 3(2) (a) provided that the member states should take the measures necessary to ensure that any laws, regulations and administrative practices contrary to the principle of equal treatment should be abolished. Article 6 obliged the member states to introduce into their national legal systems the measures necessary to enable all persons who considered themselves wronged by discrimination to pursue their claims by judicial process.

It followed that the member states were bound to adopt measures which were sufficiently effective to attain the objective of the directive and which could in fact be relied on by the persons

concerned before national courts. Such measures could, for example, include a requirement that the employer employ the person discriminated against or adequate financial compensation reinforced, if need be, by a system of fines. The directive did not impose a specific sanction but left to the member states the freedom to choose from the different possibilities apt to their legal systems.

Equality of opportunity could not be established in the absence of an appropriate penalty. That followed not only from the ends of the Directive but more specifically from article 6 which granted a right of action to job applicants who had been discriminated against and thus recognized that they had rights which could be relied on in legal proceedings.

While the application of the directive did not require a specific form of sanction for breach of the prohibition on discrimination, it nonetheless implied that the sanction had to be of such a nature as to ensure real and effective protection. It also had to have actual dissuasive effect on the employer.

In consequence, when a member state decided to penalise a breach of the prohibition on discrimination by the award of damages, they had to reflect adequately the loss suffered. National legislation which limited the rights of persons discriminated against in access to employment to a purely symbolic sum, such as reimbursement of the costs incurred in applying, was incompatible with the requirement to implement the Directive effectively in national law.

The obligation on member states to achieve the result intended by the Directive as well as the duty under article 5 of the Treaty to take all measures, whether general or particular, appropriate to ensure fulfilment of that obligation, bound all the authorities of the member states, including national courts.

In applying national law, and in particular the national legislative provisions introduced in order to implement Directive 76/207, national courts were bound to interpret national law in the light of the wording and objectives of the Directive in order to reach the result intended by article 189.

On the other hand, as to penalties for discrimination, the Directive did not include any unconditional and sufficiently precise obligation which could be relied on by an individual in the absence of implementing measures adopted within the time limits set, in order to obtain a specific remedy under the Directive when that was not provided for or permitted by national law.

For those reasons the court held:

1. Directive 76/207 did not require sex discrimination regarding access to employment to be penalised by an obligation binding the author of the discrimination to conclude a contract of employment with the applicant discriminated against.

2. So far as concerned penalties for discrimination, the directive did not include any unconditional and sufficiently precise obligation which could be relied on by an individual in the absence of implementing measures adopted within the time limits set, in order to obtain a specific remedy under the Directive when that was not provided for or permitted by national law.

3. While Directive 76/207 gave the member states freedom to choose between different solutions appropriate to achieve its objective, in order to penalise the breach of the prohibition on discrimination, it nevertheless required that, if a member state decided to penalise such a breach by the award of damages, then in order to ensure the effectiveness and dissuasiveness of the prohibition, they had to reflect adequately the damage suffered and go beyond a symbolic sum. It was for the national court to interpret and apply the legislation adopted in order to implement the Directive in conformity with the requirements of Community law, so far as it was given discretion to do so under national law.

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also on page 30

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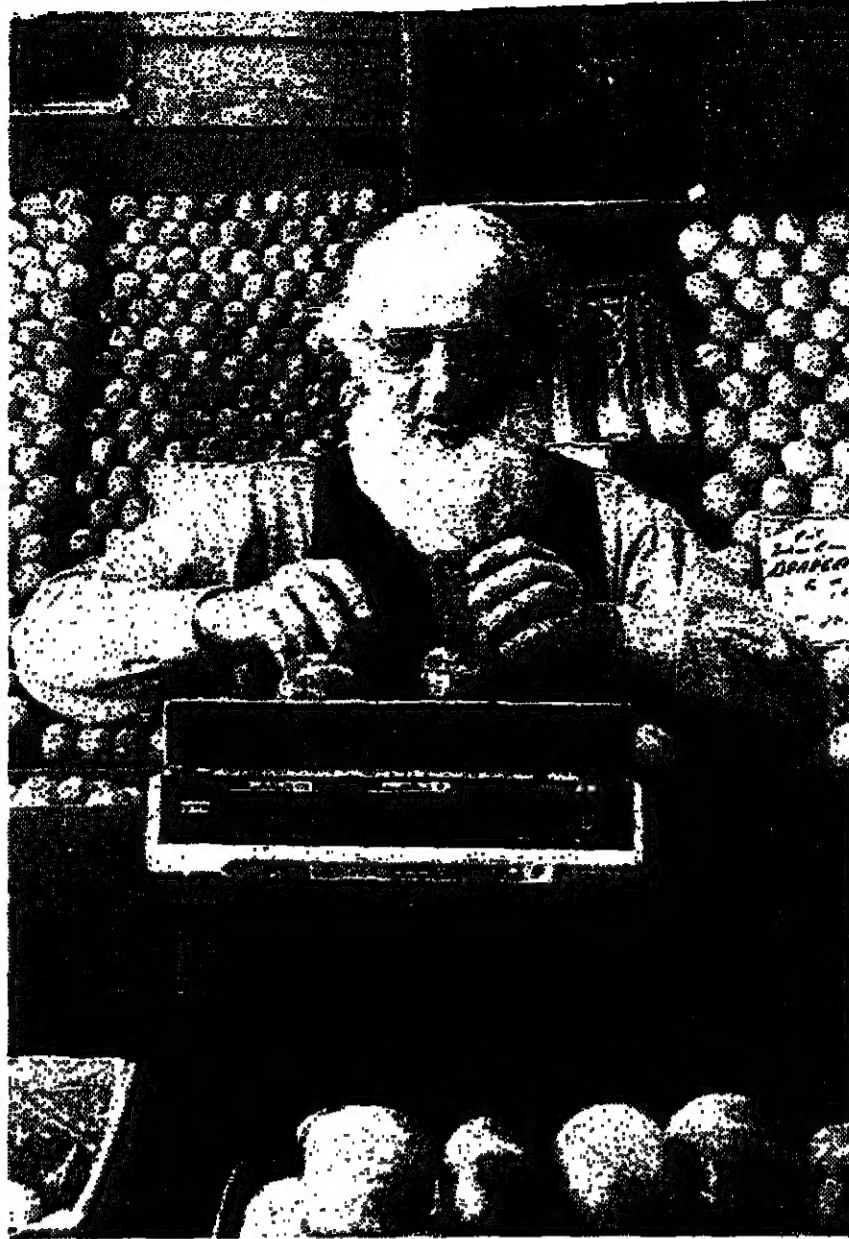


Reigning World Rally Champions.

SPECTRUM

Two hundred years ago, a Protestant sect from Germany moved to Pennsylvania committed to resisting progress. Today they can be found, barely changed by the years in between, as Christopher Thomas reports

The Americans that time forgot



Clockwise from top: An Amish family at Philadelphia Zoo for the summer picnic meeting of the Inter-State Producers' Cooperative. Eli Beller weighs fruit in an Amish store. Three Amish women watch proceedings at a horse auction in Lebanon, Missouri. Shopping in the usual Amish transport, a horse-drawn buggy. (Photographs the Philadelphia Inquirer).

From the grime and smokestacks of Philadelphia it is an hour to Paradise. The countryside is rich and fertile and under plough for tobacco and corn. People are riding in horse-drawn buggies, their eyes turned from the ceaseless gaze of strangers. They seem shy and withdrawn. The men have long, tangled beards and the women are draped in shapeless clothes that have neither buttons nor zips, for such adornments are forbidden.

They talk quietly in a foreign tongue. At home there is no electricity, no radio, no telephone and no books save for the Bible. The houses are stark, without curtains, carpets, or pictures on the wall. There probably is no internal plumbing and certainly no central heating. Lighting is by kerosene, heating by wood stove, and there is a buggy in the garage, never a car.

These are the Amish, a reactionary people who 200 years ago came to Pennsylvania from Europe, where they are extinct. In America their culture is intact, secure and distinctly separate from the pampered society all around them. The children are defecting in only small numbers, preferring instead a life that will be tidy, ordered and

rigidly prescribed by the most conservative of the "plain" religions.

The Amish exist in many states of America, but Lancaster County in Pennsylvania is the mother settlement. They came in quest of William Penn's promise of religious freedom and still speak an Old German, as well as English. There are 12,500 Amish in Lancaster County, mostly farm people who till the land with horse and plough and try to avoid man-made fertilizers. Yet they achieve a productivity that compares with the most intensive modern production methods.

In Lancaster County they live in places with names like Paradise, Intercourse, Strasburg and Bird-in-Hand. Their children leave school with little more knowledge than the ability to read and write, for education is considered worldly. They read no newspapers, nor listen to worldly news. The boys will be farmers and will neither drink nor smoke. The girls will become mothers of many children, because birth control is banned.

The Amish are pursued by tourists. The gentle countryside of Lancaster County is dotted with hotels, restaurants and hamburger joints. Even

among the Amish you find occasional signs advertising buggy rides and home-made quilts, although in general they have nothing to do with outsiders.

The many buggies that travel the country roads are trailed mercilessly in the summer by camera-laden visitors, even though the guide-books all explain that it is a strict tenet of the Amish to avoid being photographed. One 20-foot sign offers visitors to a "genuine" Amish farm, where you will find a souvenir shop, soft drink machines and a large car park. "William Penn's son built this house", says a young tour guide as she leads yet another procession through the old kitchen.

The Amish, like their less conservative neighbours, the Mennonites, are known as the Pennsylvania Dutch, which is a misnomer. They are Protestants from Germany, like many other eighteenth century settlers of Pennsylvania such as the Lutherans, Moravians and Schwenkfelders.

Amish farms are among the best. Their land in Pennsylvania is among the most expensive in the world. As their numbers expand they are moving to states where they have not pre-

viously settled. Wherever they go, they reinvigorate the local farming economy. There are now 88,000 Amish people in America in 350 settlements, and they continue to grow. They remain fervently anti-materialistic and refuse pensions and social security. The emphasis is on independence from the outside world.

They clash frequently with the world they reject. Amish children are expected to stop their education at the age of 12 or 13 ("the wisdom of the world is foolishness with God"), which brings conflicts with educational authorities over school attendance laws. The buggy is a menace on traffic-laden roads. Some states refuse to buy milk from Amish dairymen because it is not produced and stored with the aid of modern equipment. And some local ordinances ban the keeping of horses.

The moral standards of the Amish have hardly changed in 200 years but there are some concessions to the modern way. Many, for example, now use diesel engines to fuel machines that power refrigerators and motorized farm tools. They also use public telephones - in Lancaster County there are several telephone kiosks reserved exclusively for the Amish. Modern

equipment, however, is still frowned upon as worldly.

The Amish try to minimize contact with the outside world. There are 80 one-room Amish schoolhouses in Pennsylvania. They will rarely talk to journalists, and certainly not without an assurance that their names will not be used, for that would be vanity.

The tourists are their biggest headache. Lancaster County will have five million visitors this year, all looking for the funny people in their little grey buggies. Marie Goode, a local sociologist who has closely studied Amish and Mennonite culture, said: "In the 1960s some sociologists said the pressures of tourism could bring about the end of the Amish. It does get to be a zoo out here but the number of Amish has nearly doubled in the last 20 years. I expect that trend to continue."

Some Amish people, however, have moved out of Lancaster County because they could no longer stand the ogling of the tourists. But they have kept the faith, even if they have done so on 50 acres in Tennessee instead of in the ancestral, beautiful hills of Lancaster County.

moreover...
Miles Kington

When silence was truly golden

As my contribution to BBC 2's twentieth anniversary celebrations, I would like to go back 19 years to its first birthday party, which contained one of the most memorable public pronouncements that I have ever heard. BBC 2 celebrated its first year in existence by broadcasting a live two-hour discussion about media, messages and mass communication - not a very festive way of celebrating anything, you might think, but young readers must remember that BBC 2 was the Channel 4 of its day. Nowadays, of course, BBC 2 is smothered only.

This televised seminar involved lots of British intellectuals like Raymond Williams, Richard Hoggart, Jonathan Miller and people called Hall. I do not say that these particular people were on the programme, only that people like them were on the programme. I have always found it very difficult to tell the difference between people like Raymond Hoggart and Richard Williams, or between any people called Hall. I cannot even remember the name or the face the chairman. What I do remember very clearly was the presence of Derek Taylor.

Derek Taylor was not an intellectual. He was on the programme because he was press officer or publicist for the Beatles, who were at that time the most famous people in history. Perhaps the Beatles had been invited to appear on the programme and could not make it, or perhaps Derek had intercepted the invitation and decided to go himself; I don't know. Perhaps the BBC had even felt that because they were staging a discussion on mass communications, they ought to involve someone with experience of it, although this seems unlikely.

So I switched on and sat through the first hour of the discussion, as everyone made what I believe are called useful contributions to the debate. To put it another way, they made the sort of noises with which university dons impress students while thinking of something entirely different.

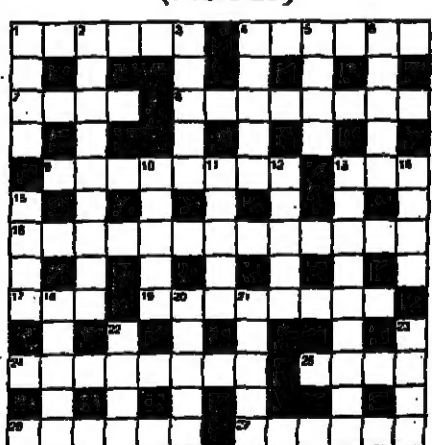
And at the end of the first hour the chairman turned to Derek Taylor and said: "Derek, I can't help noticing that after 60 minutes you still haven't said a single thing. If there is anything you'd like to say, now is your chance."

"I haven't really got anything to say except this", Derek Taylor said. "For the last hour I've listened to everything you've said, and I haven't understood a single word of it. This might worry me, except that I also realize there are hundreds of thousands of people like me at home, listening to this programme and wondering what on earth it's all about."

"That's why I think I'm performing a valuable function here. The viewers can look at me and say, 'He hasn't the faintest idea what's going on either'. I am someone actually on the television screen that they can identify with. That's all I want to say. I don't want to say anything else but the rest of the programme."

And not to be did, though I waited and waited. I can't swear that this magnificent speech was exactly as I've written it down after 19 years, but I do find it interesting that I can remember his name, the shape of what he said, and nothing else about the programme at all. Wherever you are, Derek Taylor, I salute you. Your words have taken me through more TV programmes, Sunday newspapers, and painful dinner parties than anything else I've ever heard or read.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 325)



- ACROSS
- 1 Entirely (2,4)
 - 2 Martyr's village (9)
 - 3 Take place (5)
 - 4 Hippopotamus (5)
 - 5 Harmonize (4)
 - 6 Freight (3)
 - 7 Grow rapidly (8)
 - 8 Swindle (13)
 - 9 Seed shells (5)
 - 10 Living plant (5)
 - 11 Blend (5)
 - 12 Office seeker (9)
 - 13 Plain type (8)
 - 14 Fingerprint (4)
 - 15 Soot speck (4)
 - 16 Arm pit (5)
 - 17 In front (5)
 - 18 Unstandard language (5)
 - 19 Young deer (4)
- DOWN
- 1 Identification game (1,3)
 - 2 Punter 5 Bowl 8 Exact 9 Chokers
 - 3 Open plan 13 Wilt 15 Hundredweight
 - 4 Guts 18 Unlawful 21 Soapbox 22 Purg
 - 5 Flee 24 Nephew
 - 6 Down 2 Usage 3 Tot 4 Richard M Nixon
 - 7 Boot 6 Weeping 7 Oesophagus 10 Autoteller
 - 12 Pork 14 Zeta 16 Netball 19 Force 20 Able
 - 22 Pop

SOLUTION TO No 324

ACROSS: 1 Punter 5 Bowl 8 Exact 9 Chokers
17 Guts 18 Unlawful 21 Soapbox 22 Purg
23 Flee 24 Nephew
DOWN: 2 Usage 3 Tot 4 Richard M Nixon
5 Boot 6 Weeping 7 Oesophagus 10 Autoteller
12 Pork 14 Zeta 16 Netball 19 Force 20 Able
22 Pop

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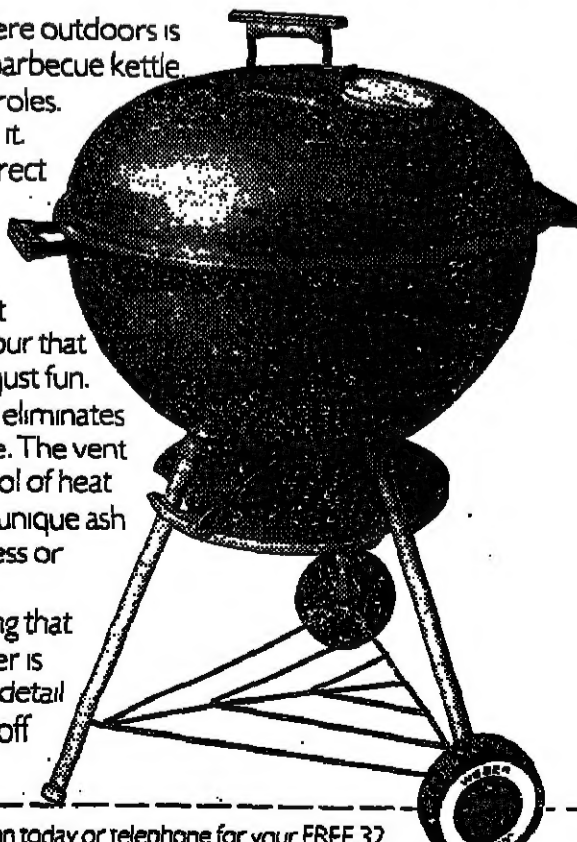
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IN A COOKOUT, IT OUTCOOKS.

Desperate measures

Sociology was partly the product of suicide or, at least, of the study of suicide statistics. One of the subject's founding fathers, the Frenchman Emile Durkheim, hoped to use these statistics to prove that sociology could become a precise science.

He attempted to correlate fluctuations in the numbers of suicides with the trends in society. He believed he had shown that, during periods of turmoil, the suicide rate went up. Social change seemed to encourage people to put an end to it all.

Recently, there has been much debate about whether unemployment causes an increase in suicides. And, for much of the 1970s, there was something close to medical panic about the numbers of attempted suicides. They rose, year by year, to something like 200,000 annual attempts.

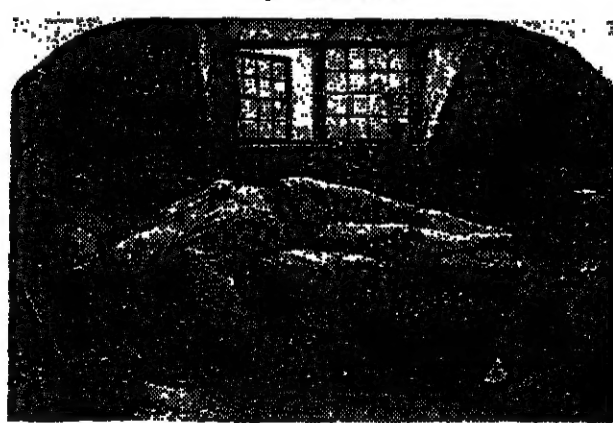
Some doctors following Durkheim blamed social change, permissiveness and the decay of family life. But studies increasingly showed that it was the prescribing habits of doctors which did as much harm as anything. Large doses of anti-depressants gave vulnerable people the perfect weapon for suicide.

Since the late 1970s, there has been some evidence that doctors are prescribing more cautiously. That may reduce casualties, but it doesn't begin to explain why people take such extreme steps.

A recent issue of the *British Journal of Psychiatry* has brought together a number of recent research reports on suicide. None of them are comforting reading.

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research: SUICIDE



Romantic image: the death of Chatterton

Lingering relic

The eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries saw suicide as a little romantic. The poet did himself in, in his garret, for love, or fame, or both.

Since 1950, suicide has become a medical problem but there are still odd relics of that romantic attitude. For instance, we tend to believe that those who threaten to kill themselves will do nothing about it. If it's all words, there's no risk.

Workers at the MRC Clinical Psychiatry Unit at Graylingwell Hospital followed up 1,263 attempted suicides to see if any of the psychological tests used predicted well those who might try again. That could alert doctors and social workers.

Using the Beck Scale, they found that those who showed the highest "suicidal intent" were, in fact, most likely to try again.

Very roughly, follow-up studies suggest that 10 per cent of those who make one serious attempt will eventually kill themselves. It seems

The reason why

Why do people kill themselves? J. A. Dyer and N. Kreitman of the Edinburgh Regional Poisoning Centre work at a unit which has long had a policy of admitting anyone who makes an attempt on his or her life. No one is just stitched up, pumped out - and sent out.

The authors note that there have been studies which have tried to examine patients' feelings of depression and hopelessness but, usually, the patients are asked how depressed and hopeless they feel when they wake up in hospital. By then it's rather too late.

Dyer and Kreitman say that asking patients "prior to the act..." seems the correct

thing to do", if one wants to understand why.

They investigated 120 subjects as soon as possible after admission. They wanted patients to remember what they felt like just before they made the attempt. Six of the 120 were unable to give a clear description of what they felt like when they did "it". The score of the other 114 revealed, not surprisingly, that they felt both very depressed and hopeless. Statistical analysis suggested that hopelessness was the key element, combined with the prospect that nothing will change.

Increase in deaths

While attempted suicides rose between 1965-75, the number of suicides actually fell. But, as research at Guy's Hospital found, suicide rates increased again from 1975 on.

In 1975, 2,184 men committed suicide in England and Wales; by 1980, the number has risen to 2,629, an increase of 21 per cent. The increase among women was smaller.

In 1975, 1,509 committed suicide while, in 1980, 1,692 did so. Among males, the most substantial increases were among men under 34, and those over 75.

Changing methods

There has been a change in the methods individuals use to kill themselves. Gas has become less common but, for some reason, violent methods of death have increased. Since 1975, there has been a significant rise in the number of suicides using firearms, hanging and, largest of all, suffocation in cars.

David Cohen

AUSTIN



Austin's

هكذا من الأصل

AUSTIN ROVER



You're looking at an inspired creation. The new Austin Montego.

A beautiful car, whose inspiration has been drawn from the needs, wants and aspirations of a very special group of people. Today's drivers.

By listening and talking to those drivers, Austin Rover has delivered the car they asked for. Montego is bigger, better equipped, faster, more economical and more stylish than today's driver is used to.

The Austin Montego: the more you read about it, the more you'll like it. After all, it was designed for you, the driver.

PASSENGERS TRAVEL FIRST CLASS TOO.

Passengers experiencing the Montego will find their every wish fulfilled.

Generous fitted carpet is complemented by ducted heating for rear seat passengers. The deeply upholstered front seats recline, and are fitted with head restraints as standard.

In the rear of the Montego HL the folding centre armrest and integral rear seat head restraints put comfort first.

Austin's much imitated split rear seat

action takes on a new role in Montego. When folded, the seat backs offer the choice of a picnic tray, or a large writing surface, as well as increasing Montego's outstanding loadspace.*

PUTTING ECONOMY AND PERFORMANCE EQUAL FIRST.

Austin Rover's new technology is shown to powerful effect in Montego's combined economy and performance.

The Montego 1.3, with the optional five-speed transmission, is capable of a staggering 58.3 mpg at 56 mph. Taking the 1.6L as an example, a top speed of 102 mph* comes as easily as an incredible 53.3 mpg at a steady 56 mph.

The same is true of the 2.0 HL, propelling the driver from 0-60 mph in 9.8 seconds* and yet still delivering over 50 mpg at 56 mph.

Part of this achievement is due to Austin Rover's proven Electronic Engine Management system. A microprocessor controls fuel usage through a highly sophisticated automatic choke system, idle speed control and deceleration fuel

cut-off. On 1.6 and 2.0 litre models, new programmed ignition brings state of the art performance to Austin's advanced engine range.

Montego's beautiful shape plays an important part in performance and economy. The flush fitting front and rear screens, and integrated body-colour bumpers help aid aerodynamic efficiency, whilst adding further style.

Today's driver wants better visibility, more interior space, more legroom and more loadspace.

The Austin Montego satisfies all four requirements within an elegant shape.

TD WHEELS AND TYRES. ANOTHER FIRST FOR MONTEGO.

The Montego is one of the first production four door saloons to be fitted with a new concept in wheel and tyre technology. Special rims are fitted with low profile TD tyres, designed to remain in position even after a sudden loss of pressure.

And on the road, the TD combination, front wheel drive and Montego's advanced suspension system give a qual-

ity of ride, handling and control unsurpassed in its class.

Montego offers a range of power units from 1.3 to 2.0 litre, including an all-new low weight 1.6 litre engine. All are equipped to cover 12,000 miles between services.* Optional 5-speed transmission becomes standard on L models upwards; automatic is available on 1.6 litre models.

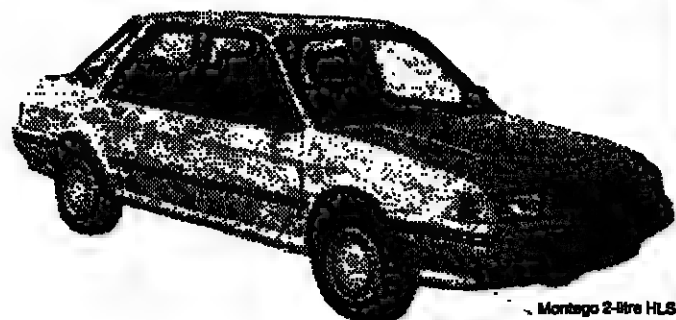
SOME PUT LUXURY FIRST. OTHERS WANT PERFORMANCE.

The prestigious Vanden Plas heads the Montego range in luxury, while the 2 litre electronic fuel injection MG EFI delivers the ultimate in performance and handling. Every Montego comes with the benefits of Austin Rover's free 6 year corrosion warranty and first year full warranty, extendable for the second and third years.

Test drive one of the Montego range at your Austin Rover dealer. You'll see why it's the car that puts the driver first.

AUSTIN MONTEGO
FROM £5,282.
DRIVING IS BELIEVING.

The new Montego



Montego 2-litre HLE

Today Austin Rover launch the Montego, part of a £200m investment to win the fierce battle for sales here and abroad. Clifford Webb, our motoring correspondent, reports on the car and the people who built it

Without an effective contender in the upper medium car sector for the past 20 years BL has been fighting a losing battle against the relentless growth of Ford initially and Vauxhall more recently. As a senior Austin Rover executive put it: "Not having a Cortina or Cavalier in our line-up was like having one arm tied behind our back."

The relief at having at last broken free to take on the competition with both fists swinging was so obvious at the press preview of Montego that Harold Musgrove, chairman and chief executive, became quite emotional. He said: "For the past three years I have had to sit and take it while our competitors took the cream. Yet all that time I knew we had a real winner in LM 11 (Montego's code name). Metro saved our bacon, Maestro pointed the way ahead but Montego will unlock the door not only to bigger sales at home but also to help us to build networks in overseas markets."

With Montego and Maestro Austin Rover has a formidable range of four door notchback and five-door hatchbacks covering the whole of the medium sector. Last year this sector accounted for more than 1 million sales in Britain or six out of every 10 cars sold.

The upper medium sector now being tackled by Montego was alone responsible for 25 per cent of the entire market or more than 483,000 registrations. But by far the most significant aspect is that 60 per cent of the cars sold in the upper medium sector went to companies and fleet operators. It was Austin Rover's very

poor showing here with outdated Itals and Ambassadors that did the most damage to its overall penetration.

No other market has such high proportion of cars going to business and professional buyers. It is no longer sufficient for a manufacturer to offer merely an adequate, reliable, competitively priced car, although that was what Ford did with the immensely successful Cortina for more than 20 years. Today it is estimated that half of all fleet and company drivers in this sector have a say in the selection.

Manufacturers must pay particular attention to their needs by offering a wide range at the right price. Austin Rover has long enjoyed the potential benefit of being the only 100 per cent British car maker. This has meant that it has figured prominently in the list of cars preferred by many firms.

However, without suitable modern contenders in its line-up, it has not been able to capitalize on this enormous advantage and firms have reluctantly transferred their allegiance to imported makes.

Austin Rover still had to get the right appeal built into Montego. Market research has shown that buyers in its sector are looking for something a little different - not too way-out or the boss may have something to say - but different enough to give it character. Once upon a time the men at Austin Morris and Rover looked upon secret research clinics to test public reaction as being totally unnecessary. They were confident enough of their own

expertise to be able to create demand for their product. Those days have gone. Montego was "cliniced" extensively in Britain and the Continent from its earliest conception right up to the final signing-off for production.

In addition, because of its importance to fleet buyers, representative numbers of them were invited to view prototypes and drive them. They were also among the first to be flown to the South of France to test early production models on the demanding mountain roads behind Nice and at high speed on the autoroutes.

Montego and Maestro are the result of a £210m investment programme which has allowed the company to build both cars on the extensively automated facilities at Cowley. The key to cost-effective production today is to make maximum use of parts common to as many models as possible and to assemble them in plants which are flexible enough to switch from one model to another to meet changing trends in demand.

Austin Rover executives react angrily to suggestions that Montego is simply a Maestro with a boot. It is not, but there is such a strong family resemblance that you could be forgiven for thinking that it was a Maestro chopped in two through the "B" pillar with a new back end grafted on. In fact 60 per cent of Maestro's body pressings are used in the newcomer yet Austin Rover claims with justification that it has nevertheless created a distinctive identity.

There is more to come from the same family tree. An estate-car

version has already been developed and will probably be launched at the British Motor Show in October. This one model alone will particularly please Austin Rover's dealers, who have had to stand idly by while the new Sierra and Cavalier estate cars - not to mention a whole flock from continental and Japanese makers - scooped up the growing demand for well-appointed but competitively priced load-carriers.

The eight-car Montego range with 1.3, 1.6 and 2 litre engines in various stages of tune and with four-speed, five-speed and automatic transmission options, will almost certainly be extended to over a dozen versions with the arrival of the Montego estate, together with the similar eight-strong Maestro range that gives Austin Rover the sort of drawing power its dealers have been yearning for since the halcyon days of the much-loved 1100 range.

Montego at 14.6ft is 16in longer than the Maestro. It is also 4in longer than the Cavalier, 2in longer than the Sierra. In the fleet market the added security of a boot in which to lock samples is often the clincher that wins big contracts. But the boot serves another important purpose. It helps to make the car look bigger all round and there are plenty of fleet buyers who want the biggest possible perceived package to keep their reps happy when they pull up in the clients' car park alongside the competition's smaller but equally costly car.

Since October 1980 when Metro

made its debut, we have seen the Honda-designed Accord attempting to hold the line until Maestro came along in March 1983 and a year later Montego. An extensively redesigned Accord, almost certainly rebadged as a Rover instead of Triumph, is due out this summer. It will be followed in 1985 by Project XX, the up-market executive saloon designed jointly by Austin Rover and Honda and intended for simultaneous production in both countries. It will almost certainly carry Austin Rover's banner back to the United States for the first time in many years and could be the cornerstone on which to build a new retail network in the world's biggest car market.

But even with his two car plants, Longbridge and Cowley reaching a 10-year high last year, producing more than 450,000 cars, Mr Musgrove is determined not to put too many of his eggs into one export market - no matter how tempting the short-term gains. He knows that even when he reaches his potential capacity of 750,000 cars a year he will still not be big enough to aspire to import leadership in any major overseas market. By spreading his effort, particularly in Europe, he will also be protecting himself against unexpected market swings.

He is equally adamant that he now has the model range to take on the best that Europe can offer. And for a man who has looked forward to this day for six frustrating years, that is cause for becoming more than a little emotional.

Three engines for eight great cars

Though 60 per cent of the body pressings are shared with Maestro, Austin Rover executives insist that it is no mere Maestro. In fact the only recognizable exterior body features common to both are the lower door panels with their long side flutes. Front-end panels are all new with a steeply raked bonnet line sweeping down from concealed windscreen wipers to styled headlamps in an extended front overhang.

The basic floor pan, that unseen but critical part of any car, is modified to provide Montego with a 10in wheelbase - 2.5in more than Maestro. The overall length of 175.9in is nearly 17in longer. This has enabled Austin Rover to create a more space-efficient package than Maestro, itself a leader in its class. The extra rear legroom makes it an ideal family car.

The boot has 18.4 cubic feet of load space with the added advantage on HL models and above of a 60/40 split fold on the squab to cope with long or awkward loads.

The eight-car range uses three engine sizes: 1300cc, 1600cc and 2000cc. The smallest, the 1300 A Plus, is similar to the redesigned unit used in Maestro. It has an engine-management system using breakerless ignition, electronic fuel control, a fuel cut-off device on the over-run and an automatic choke.

Austin Rover claims this combination is normally found only on the most advanced fuel injection systems and provides much better fuel economy. Information is fed to the carburettor from sensors in the engine, enabling it to respond to temperature, throttle opening and engine revs. Extensive testing suggests that the system will run for 24,000 miles before the ignition and carburettor require attention.

The most important arrival is the new 1600cc "S" series engine. It bears some family resemblance to the early "E" and "R" series engines, but reflects a stage of development which those unfortunate engines never received.

To generations of drivers accustomed to the relatively slow-revving Austin and Morris engines, the "S" is an eye-opener. It revs so freely and seems so "unburstable" that it might well be Italian. In its standard version, it covers 0 to 60 mph in 10.9 secs. and will do 102 mph. The 2000cc engine is an uprated version of the "C" series used in the Rover 2000 and the Ambassador. Cylinder head improvements and a return to a single instead of twin carburettor lay-out have increased power and torque. In the MG EFI version it uses the Lucas "L" type fuel injection. All Montego models use an end-on transmission layout.

The use of a five-speed Honda gearbox on the bigger "O" series cars has already led to speculation that it is destined to play a much bigger role in Austin Rover's future plans beginning with Project XX, the new Austin Rover-Honda-designed executive saloon which will make its appearance next year and be produced simultaneously in both countries.

The top gear is particularly long-legged, requiring only 2600 rpm at 70 mph. However, the MG EFI uses a close ratio version, in which fifth gear is the equivalent of a normal fourth gear. This makes for much snappier acceleration, but there were times during fast runs on the French autoroute when I found the engine noise thrashy and tiring.

The suspension system is identical to Maestro's but uprated to cope with the extra weight. There is a considerable change however in the wheels and tyres used on Montegos above the 1.3 and 1.6 models with the introduction of the over-run and tyre concept.

This combines Dunlop's Denlop retention system and Michelin's "TR" rim and sidewall construction. It does not have a "run flat" capability in the form fitted to Montego but the tyre stays on the rim after puncturing, enabling the driver to bring it to a halt without loss of control.

In my view, however, the biggest step forward in Montego's equipment is the least obvious: its seat belts. I long ago came to terms with them because of their enormous contribution to safe driving. That is to say, I wear them at all times but like most drivers - and women in particular - I find the pull across my chest and thighs very irritating if not tiring on a long run.

Montego's retention is so gentle and unassuming that for the first time you can forget you are wearing a safety belt.

A second feature of Montego's belts is the adjustable top anchorage for front seats. With four positions to choose from there is no longer any need for shorter drivers to be throttled.



The men behind the Montego: from the left, Harold Musgrove, chairman of Austin Rover, Andrew Barr and Mark Snowden: "No longer should competitors be able to take the cream of the business."

Lucas Equipment List - Austin Montego

- ✓ Square-styled Halogen Headlamps
- ✓ High-Contrast Front Indicator Lamps
- ✓ Compact, High-Performance Alternator
- ✓ Starter of Proven Reliability
- ✓ Steering Column Switchgear & Relays
- ✓ Front Screenwiper Equipment
- ✓ High-Performance Battery
- ✓ Advanced Digital Ignition System
- ✓ Electronic Throttle Control
- ✓ Electronic Flasher Units
- ✓ Facia Panel Equipment & Instruments
- ✓ Headlight Dimmer
- ✓ Sensors, Transducers & Drive Units
- ✓ Multipoint Fuel Injection Equipment (for high performance derivatives)
- ✓ Lucas Electrical Electronics & Systems
- ✓ Lucas Gearing
- ✓ Rists (a Lucas Company)
- ✓ Front Disc Brakes
- ✓ Rear Drum Brakes
- ✓ Brake Absorption Equipment
- ✓ Electrical Wiring System
- ✓ Electrical Connectors
- ✓ Ignition Coil & Points System
- ✓ Lucas

Austin Rover and Lucas put the driver first.

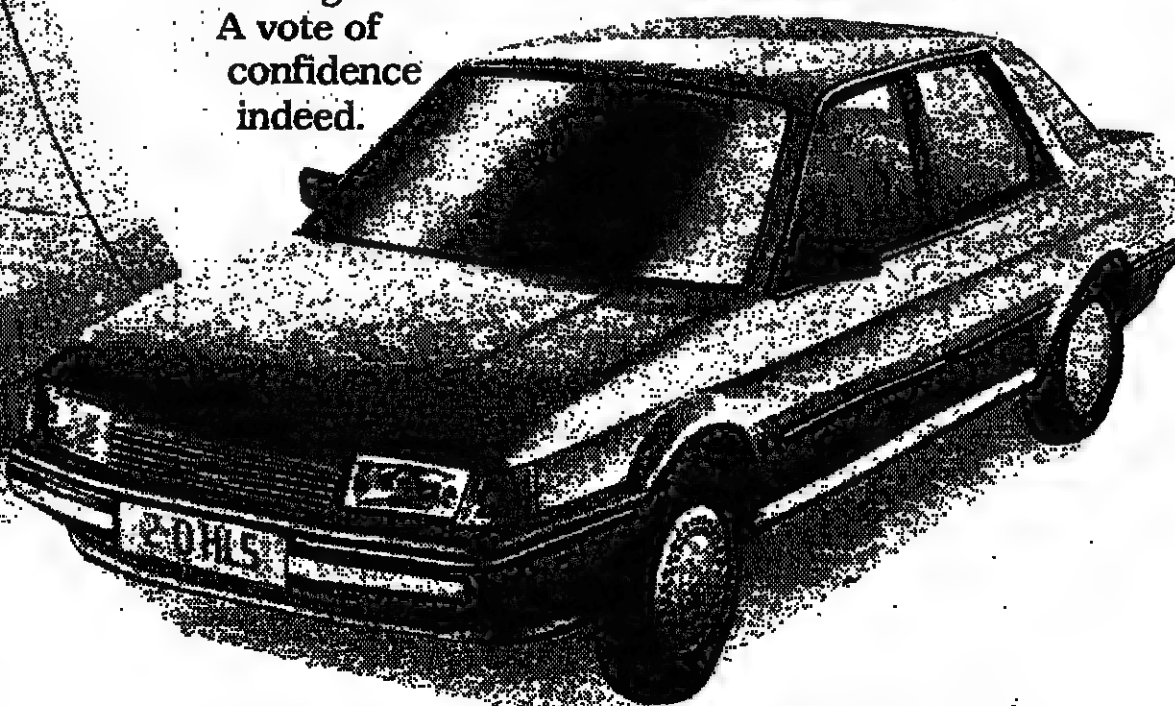
When Austin Rover were selecting electrical, electronic and braking equipment for the new Austin Montego, they knew just what they wanted - hi-tech systems and components that would add to the driver's comfort, pleasure and confidence.

In the event, all roads led to Lucas.

Small wonder; Lucas is in the forefront of the automotive electronics revolution and Lucas hi-tech products and systems are "taken for granted" features of most British motorcars - including the highly successful Metro and Maestro.

Once again Austin Rover have chosen Lucas.

A vote of confidence indeed.



The last 'man only' job falls to the robots

Austin Rover has used the launch of the Montego to introduce new design and manufacturing technologies at its Cowley plant which have transformed methods of working, productivity and quality.

It has broken entirely new ground in the rapidly changing world of robotics by introducing them to the last stronghold of manual labour, the trim and final assembly line. For the first time anywhere robots are fitting front and rear screens as cars pass down a moving track.

Austin Rover has developed the system with the VS Technology group of Luton and it has been patented for worldwide sales to other motor manufacturers.

A direct glazing method is used on Montego to bond glass to the body. This not only makes a smoother joint, improving aerodynamics and appearance, but is said to produce a stronger body structure.

On a platform above the assembly line, two robots apply carefully controlled amounts of adhesive to the front and rear screens. They are then transferred to a rotating rack which delivers them to the production line below.

The key feature of the system is its ability to position the screens accurately to one millimetre regardless of the position of the body shell. A special under-body fitting device secures it into the robot station while the two long-reach robot arms fit the screens.

The screens themselves are picked up by the robots using suction pads. The actual fitting operation is monitored by cameras mounted to the robot heads. Information is fed back to a central processing unit which automatically readjusts the body position.

Andy Barr, Austin Rover's managing director (operations), insists that the main aim of robot glazing is not to replace human labour. He said: "Every investment in a new robot must be justified on the grounds of improved quality and increased efficiency. That was the philosophy behind the decision to tackle glazing as a priority for robotization."

"It is a key area in terms of product quality and customer satisfaction and in the interests of efficiency we set out from the beginning to develop systems capable of operating at normal track speeds."

The impact of CAE (Computer Aided Engineering) is one of the most far reaching

developments in modern industry. Tasks which used to take days and even weeks using conventional drafting techniques are now completed in minutes with a computer VDU (Visual Display Unit) and a light pen.

Austin Rover has invested over £12m to install 200 CAE work stations, most of them at Cowley which now has one of the largest CAE concentrations in Europe.

Montego was developed like Maestro as one of a family of medium cars. But where Maestro was the first Austin Rover product to have its skin panels developed using CAE, many of Montego's interior components have also been engineered in this way. So too have the tools used to produce both exterior and interior panels and components.

Secret of the metallic finish

When Maestro appeared a year ago management made it clear that as the rest of the LC 10 family appeared and volume built up so would the introduction of robots and automation in other forms. Maestro would not alone have justified the entire £147m investment which has occurred at Cowley in the past two years.

The Montego/Maestro body build system called BUSCON (build sequence control system) is used to monitor and control the movement of panels, sub-assemblies and completed body shells. Cowley management regards it as a vital tool to achieve internationally competitive levels of efficiency.

The paint plant has been refurbished at a cost of £11m and is part of an area which has seen substantial improvements in Austin Rover paint finish in recent years. A fully automatic pre-treatment and priming plant with a capacity of 472 vehicles an hour is the first high volume, total immersion plant in Britain.

The paint track splits into two at the colour coat stage, each with a capacity of 36 cars an hour. One is used for Montego and one for Maestro. Metallic finishes are obtained with a clear lacquer coat over the base coat. As on Maestro, the big wraparound thermoplastic bumpers are fitted before the painting process and are able to be matched perfectly for colour.

An interesting new development controlled test system for the car's wiring before the com-

plete fascia is fitted. It simulates the signals the fascia would receive when working fully, checking switches, fuel gauge, speedometer, temperature and where fitted, the onboard trip computer which controls the "high tech" instrument pack.

This is additional to the complete vehicle electrical test which is conducted by computer at the end of the track.

In parallel with the new technology Austin Rover has been developing a new shop floor management system based on the zone concept. It increases the role and responsibility of the supervisor.

But the ordinary man on the shop floor has not been forgotten. Every Montego operator was taken to the company's test track at Gaydon near Warwick to drive the Montego and give their opinions. More importantly, the first 50 Montegos to leave the track were handed to the men who built them to drive around Oxfordshire at dead of night to assess performance, ride, comfort and quality.

"Ride and drive" exercises of this type had previously been restricted to senior executives. Jim Donaghy, Cowley operations director, says: "It is a level of operator involvement never before seen in the car industry."

Les Wells has worked at Cowley for the past 15 years and now trains newcomers to the Montego assembly line to fit the wheel arch liners, motifs and one piece moulded headliners. He says: "You can't make cars without the workers and we are now recognized as individuals in our own right who take a pride in what we are doing. We know that every operator's livelihood depends on our selling cars. We have to get the quality right."

"If you listen to the blokes they'll tell you this car is a winner."



The Montego on the assembly line. For the first time anywhere robots are fitting windcreens, the last stronghold of manual labour

'Now it's up to the car'

Mark Snowdon, managing director (commercial) of the Austin Rover group, refuses to be drawn into speculation about Montego's market share prospects.

"That is the most unrewarding way of launching a new car that I can think of," he insists. "We have done our homework and now it is up to the car itself."

Much of Montego had already been proven by Maestro. That car had established itself in the market place and any

initial problems had been put right so that Montego in turn could benefit.

It fitted into the Austin Range because it was planned to do so. The styling of a car was a key area. Every one had his or her views about that but Austin Rover had carried out extensive clinics in Britain and across the Channel to get a more objective view from a wide cross-section of potential customers.

He said these clinics which were conducted behind a strict

security curtain to hide the car's real identity had indicated that it could be perceived as being more an executive car than an upper medium car. If that was a problem then it was one they did not mind having.

Outside Europe Montego had a rather different job to do as a specialist, low volume car, and to succeed it needed style, refinement and exceptional specifications. Mr Snowdon added: "Just as importantly it needs the rugged reliability to withstand the conditions it is likely to meet in Australia or Saudi Arabia. We know it will do that too. Montegos have been submitted to extended durability testing and to extremes of climatic and road conditions."

Mr Snowdon said Montego's additional significance to the fortunes of Austin Rover was that in providing a very strong contender in the upper medium sector it allowed the company to challenge the competition where it had not been able to do for some years.

This meant that virtually every Montego sold would be a conquest sale. "It completes our range and gives us the opportunity for real growth not only this year but in 1985 and beyond," he said.

It has taken Austin Rover a long time to appreciate the spin-off in extra sales which follow successes on the racetrack and in rallies.

As Mr Snowdon puts it: "It is driver appeal which is underlined by our commitment to an extensive motorsport programme on the race-track at home and abroad."

Fleets: the long road back

Austin Rover has a lot of ground to recapture in the vital fleet and company car sector. Sixteen years ago the companies that now comprise ARG held around 40 per cent of the fleet business. Today they are down to 17 per cent. But even that is a big improvement on the 12 per cent they plummeted to a few years ago.

The long road back began just over two years ago when a decision was made to reinforce and reorganize the fleet sales department completely. Maestro was able to take advantage of the initial work in the department but Montego will get the benefit of the complete reorganization.

That it should get every assistance possible to penetrate the 500,000 cars a year upper medium sector is vital to ARG's continued recovery. It has been virtually absent from one third of the British car market since the days of the Morris Oxford and Austin Cambridge.

A key figure in the new fleet set-up is Jeffrey Johnson, the director of fleet sales and service, who was head-hunted from Ford, the long-established fleet market leader. He said: "It is remarkable that we have managed to reach 17 per cent of the fleet market without a real contender in the most important sector. But that means we have more to build on than most people realize."

The building includes increasing the fleet department's strength by 40 per cent to around 70. Three divisions have been created within the department: sales, service and strategy. The latter is an embracing "think tank" conducting its own independent market surveys, monitoring every aspect of the fleet business and coming up with new ideas for winning customers from the competition.

Particular attention will be paid to the big car-rental companies with fleet size between 5,000 and 8,000 cars. But more important than size is the fact that they change their fleets every nine months to a year.

ARG's own rental company, British Car Rentals, operates a growing fleet of 1,400 cars through 130 dealers who hold the BCR franchise.

Mr Johnson is adamant that having a good product line-up is not enough. He is taking his time appointing fleet specialists from the 1,400-strong ARG dealer network. So far only 45 have been chosen and it is planned to increase this to 125 by next spring.

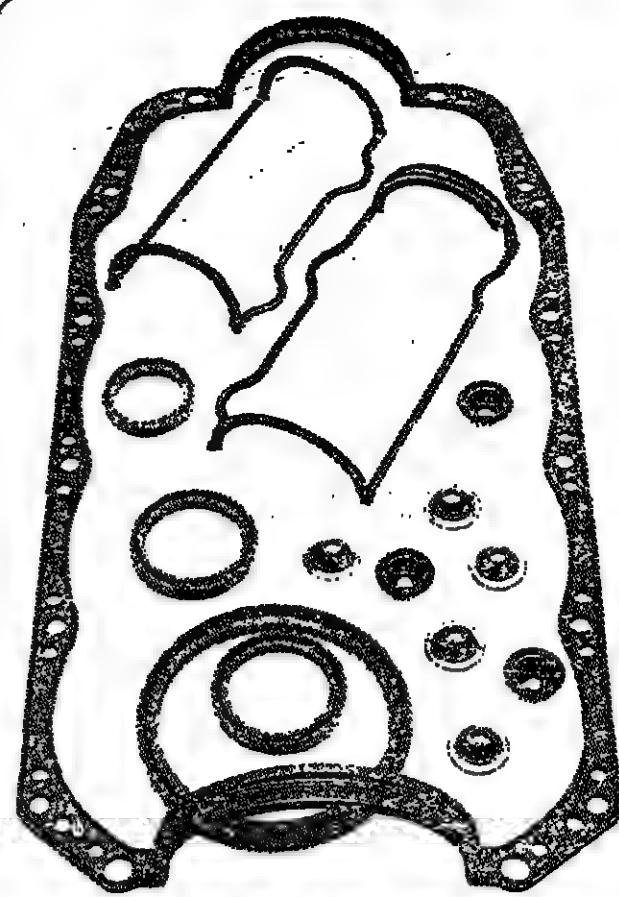
"The people are so important to our success in the fleet business. I intend to see that

every fleet specialist we appoint has the right size and the right calibre of servicing accommodation, equipment and personnel."

The build-up to Montego's launch began last year when 140 executives controlling the biggest fleets in the country were taken on a guided tour of the carefully guarded Holy of Holies for any car maker, the styling studio. They were able to

inspect Montego at close quarters and even, let it be whispered, given a brief glimpse of other new models in the pipeline for later this year and next year.

A further 650 fleet operators were taken to France for a two day "ride and drive" exercise with Montego. All those I have spoken to since were impressed with what they saw and the way the car itself handled.



SEAL OF APPROVAL FOR AEROQUIP

Austin Rover has specified Aeroquip as sole source for all rotary shaft and valve stem seals on the 'S' engine. Also for the first time Austin Rover are using Aeroquip all-in-one rubber gaskets for the sump and cam covers, a technical advancement in gasket sealing technology.

This vote of confidence in Aeroquip is the result of a long, close association in which time Aeroquip has provided a service of unequalled quality supported by supply reliability.

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HOOVER UNIVERSAL

Britain's largest Automobile Seating Manufacturer, will be supplying the Rear Seat Back units for the Austin Montego.

Hoover's Design and Development Department, in conjunction with the Austin Rover Group Engineers at Canley and Oxford, have developed units for the Austin Montego of fabricated steel construction. In parallel with the fabricated steel units, Hoover Universal carried out an evaluation of plastics for the construction of Automobile Rear Seating on a quality strength cost-weight ratio, considering all forms of plastics technology, embracing European, American and Japanese capabilities. This programme was supplemented by a Government Grant: "Support for Innovation". The conclusion was reached that in the foreseeable future, using the latest technology in production methods, steel has significant advantages.

Hoover Universal Inc. Hoover Universal (UK)'s Parent Company, has extensive involvement in the Plastics Industry, manufacturing both machinery and products for varied markets, including the Motor Industry.

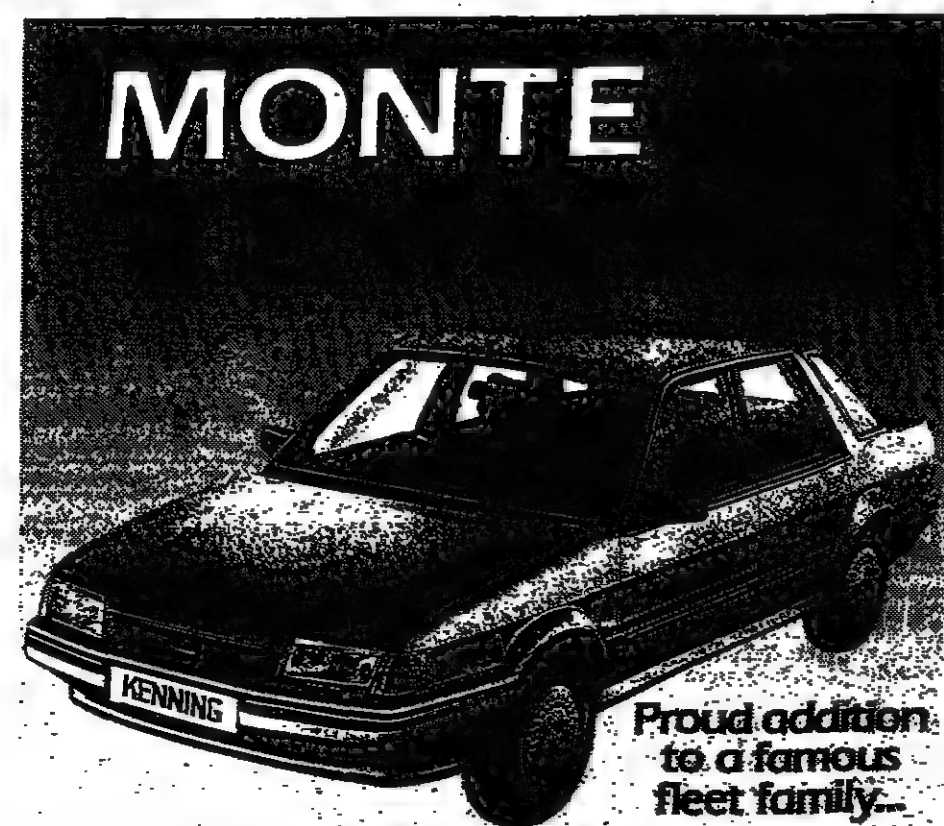
At Hoover Universal's Leigh-on-Sea factory, the Austin Montego Seating will be produced on the most modern equipment available, incorporating a multi-robot set-up, combining Spot and CO2 welding, featuring weld feedback controls through microprocessors to ensure 100% Quality Assurance. This £12 million investment has been constructed by Hoover Engineering and local sub-contractors with the aid of a Government Robot Support Grant. The Company considers that this is the most technically advanced equipment of this nature in the world.

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PORTUGAL'S NARROW ESCAPE

Ten years ago today the young captains of the Armed Forces Movement overthrew the 48-year-old Portuguese dictatorship. The "revolution of the carnations" was born. For two years world attention was to be focused on a dramatic and confused power struggle in a country which had been previously and has since again become, something of a backwater in European politics.

Some of the "captains" turned out to be close to the Communist Party - notably Colonel (now retired General) Vasco Gonçalves, the new regime's second prime minister. Others such as the famous Major Otelo Saraiva de Carvalho fancied themselves further to the left, favouring direct democracy, which in practice means rule by self-appointed people's committees (of Colonel Gaddafi's Libya). Luckily others still, while not immune to the heady wine of revolutionary idealism, held fast to the revolution's first promise of "general elections for a constituent national assembly, whose powers, by its representation and free election, will permit the nation to choose freely its own form of social and political life".

Those elections were held exactly one year after the revolution, because popular demand for them overrode the last-minute hesitations of the more doctrinaire left-wing officers. In the Constituent Assembly the majority of seats went to parties believing in representative democracy. Even so, during the summer of 1975 the regime seemed determined to ignore the Assembly and to set up a kind of institutionalised mob rule, from which the Communists would almost certainly sooner or later have emerged dominant. But this attempt encountered vigorous popular resistance, especially in the countryside.

The turning-point came in August with the "Document of the Nine" in which the officers who believed in democracy called a halt to the pendulum's

wild leftward swing. Colonel Gonçalves, exhausted by his attempt to hold the revolution together, was obliged to resign. By late September a new government was formed reflecting the political composition of the Assembly, and on November 25 a hitherto little-known officer, one Antonio dos Santos Ramalho Eanes, asserted that government's authority against the far left and restored the beginnings of military discipline within the armed forces.

The revolution had found its thermidor and, despite many gloomy predictions, was spared its Bonaparte. General Eanes, now nearing the end of his second term as President, has been the model of a constitutional head of state, intervening from time to time to ensure that popular sovereignty is respected but never substituting himself for the government which is, according to the constitution, responsible to parliament.

Communism did not carry the day in Portugal, but some say that Portugal itself was of only minor interest to Moscow anyway. The author of the Brezhnev doctrine probably did not overrate his chances of establishing a bridgehead of communism in the heart of NATO. Portugal's African colonies, cradle of the Armed Forces Movement and graveyard of the Salazar-Caetano regime, were another matter. The installation of a radical nationalist regime in Mozambique was a mortal blow to Ian Smith's Rhodesia. But a bigger prize was Angola where the presence of a left-wing Portuguese governor, Admiral Rosa Coutinho, at the crucial moment enabled the pro-Soviet MPLA to win international recognition as the legal government without ever being legitimised by popular vote, and then, by legally inviting the Cubans in, to maintain itself in power.

From there Moscow may well have hoped to move on to install a Swapo government in Win-

dhoeck and, before long, an ANC (pro-Moscow) government in Pretoria. But South Africa is proving a much tougher nut to crack and, by its support for Dr Savimbi, is preventing Moscow and its friends from enjoying the fruits of victory in Angola. Indeed, Moscow seems unable or unwilling to bear the expense of supporting so many clients so far from home, and most of the black states of southern Africa are now closer to being South African than Soviet satellites, and looking more to the West than to Moscow to save them from complete South African domination.

Portugal anyway, freed from its African incubus, can take a relatively detached view of these problems. It has, against many predictions, absorbed its *retornados* - just as France did her *rapatriés d'Algérie* a decade earlier. But for brave new worlds the seventies have been a less clement decade than the sixties. Portuguese democracy, like Britain's membership of the European Community, has been served with a bitter economic sauce of austerity, which revolutionary excesses in the mid-1970s, followed by misguided if understandable hesitation to swallow the prescribed dose, have rendered all the more indigestible. The unfortunate Dr Soares, who played a more creditable role in the revolution than many, now has the ungrateful task of prescribing less and less pleasant antidotes.

Still, most Portuguese are mature enough to realise that democracy is not the cause of their poverty, that Salazar's protectionist system using the African colonies as captive markets and sources of raw materials held back their economic development and was in any case breaking down by 1974, and that long-term hope lies in inclusion within an expanding European economic system. Europe is, after all, where Portugal belongs.

A TAX ON RECONSTRUCTION

Clarity in a tax system is a great virtue. The system's victims may value fairness even more highly, but those who administer it will tend to prefer clarity - and with some reason, for the accumulation of special provision for hard cases is apt to work in the end even against the interest of a broader fairness. But the bureaucratic urge to tidiness can all too easily fall on things that are awkward to administer, without regard to considerations of fairness. So it is with the proposals in the Finance Bill for imposing VAT on building alterations. The change would strike a most damaging blow to the conservation of historic buildings, large and small, of great value to the urban and rural landscape, it would tip the balance of their fate from useful survival to destruction.

The anomaly that the proposal sets out to remedy was always an indefensible one in principle. At present VAT of 15 per cent is charged on building repairs, but not on new building or alterations, nor on conservation and refurbishment projects except for their repair element. This distinction is neither a clear nor a fruitful one, and it has led to much litigation, which has recently been going badly for the Customs and Excise. So a decision was taken to change the rules. But instead of extinguishing the anomaly it was simply moved on a stage to a point less subject to argument, but one where its damaging effects will become far more serious.

New building and demolition are to remain zero-rated. The effect will be to change drastically the relative financial attractiveness of the great enterprise of conservation in which government, local authorities and private efforts have collaborated since European Architectural Heritage Year in 1975. Many towns and villages already attest to the success of this effort enabling their fabric to adapt to changed needs without having their identity obliterated in the process. Much of this work has been devoted not to maintaining

the splendour of stately homes but to the provision of low-cost accommodation by housing associations, often charities working in decayed inner city areas where their efforts have helped to give a restored focus to local pride. Since this kind of work tends to be more labour-intensive and skilled than new building, there have been favourable consequences for employment as well.

Such projects are seldom highly profitable even now: in future they will have to be inherently 15 per cent more attractive than bulldozing the site and starting anew if they are to have any hope of acceptance. Many projects already planned or in prospect will have no hope of doing so.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, chairman of the new Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission - presented at the moment of its birth with a most challenging test of its lobbying sinew - has proposed that listed buildings and those in conservation areas should be zero-rated. Save Britain's Heritage has made a similar proposal. Such a concession would soften the blow in many cases and might be considered as a transitional step, but it would exclude too many worthwhile projects and impose too narrow a focus on the general problem of how best to use the nation's most extensive inherited capital asset. It has little chance of serious consideration while Mr Lawson and the Treasury remain cock-a-hoop with glee at the prospect of so great a gain in administrative simplicity.

There is an underlying political drive towards extending the area of VAT in the long term which would make such a concession increasingly vulnerable in future years. The Chancellor's own preference for indirect as against direct taxation coincides with the eventual aim of harmonising Britain's taxes with those of our EEC partners, who all raise more VAT from the consumer than Britain does. Conservationists protest that Britain is alone in the EEC in

proposing a special discrimination against conservation and the Government replies that it is already alone in giving a special concession to alterations as distinct from repairs. Both are correct, for most construction is subject to VAT in most EEC countries (though Belgium, for instance, actually has a concessionary rate for domestic repairs).

The point is not that it is wrong to charge VAT on reconstruction, but that it is wrong to give new building a 15 per cent start over it. Mr Lawson has simplified too little, not too much. There never was much logic to the decision taken when VAT was introduced in 1972 to treat the building of houses as a staple activity which could not be taxed, and the keeping of houses in repair as a supplementary activity taxable at the full rate.

The prejudices of the time, including resentment towards the foreign tax, and the habit of measuring the success of governments by the number of dwellings built under their aegis, created a distinction which was unhelpful then, and is now positively harmful - for the major problem today regarding our housing stock is not adding to it but keeping it from falling to pieces (with much evidence of widespread deterioration in all tenures). Historic buildings represent many the most vulnerable part of this wider problem.

Given that the government has done its sums for overall revenues and expenditures, the most straightforward immediate solution is to tax all building work equally at whatever reduced rate is necessary to bring in an equivalent revenue to the present proposals. At the very least, a clear statement of intent needs to be made that the discrimination will be removed in the next budget. For every month in which a special disincentive to building conservation prevails without a clear prospect of reprieve, will see more decisions taken that will be the doom of buildings which could and should have been saved.

Thinking for Church

From Mr John Pearman

Sir, Truth, clearly perceived and courageously articulated, often makes people angry. That much, at least, is evident from a reading of the synoptic gospels. Ronald Butt and Digby Anderson (feature, April 12) appear to be very angry with our clergyman; apparently they are too left-wing to be efficient chaplains to the *status quo*.

In fact, as a professional group, the modern generation of Anglican priests is notoriously conservative in outlook. This is manifest not only in the way they speak and dress and in the newspapers they read, but also in

the reforms which they have initiated in the last 25 years.

A recent example is the liturgical revision represented by the 1980 Alternative Service Book. Compared with the 1662 Book of Common Prayer this is a deeply conservative reformulation, drawing on Christian source-material in many cases far more ancient than that available to Cranmer and Ridley.

Of course there has been a restructuring of some of the surface details of the language employed, but conservatism has to do with conserving the inner spirit (not necessarily the outer form) of an institution. The ASB is much nearer

the roots of Christianity than is the BCP and a similar point could be made for modern translations of the Bible when compared with the 1611 King James Version.

As for "projecting Christianity as a social gospel", what could be more traditional or more appropriate for a faith whose foundation stories include the good samaritan and the father who welcomes back the prodigal and whose first missionary urged that "it is more blessed to give than to receive"?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN PEARMAN,
10 Hamlet Court,
23 Village Road,
Bush Hill Park,
Enfield, Middlesex.

Law and the Libyan People's Bureau

From Mr Martin E. Maloney

Sir, The crossing of a national frontier in response to an attack from the other side or in pursuit of attackers who have fled across the border is, I believe, recognised in international law. It is not, however, exactly our position with regard to the Libyan People's Bureau and its occupants. Though "foreign territory", it may nonetheless be justifiably encroached upon, and this we ought to do.

But even if there is no defence for such an action in international law the police should still enter the Bureau and try to arrest the murderer. For while it is desirable that Britain should not set a precedent for disregarding international law it is still more desirable that she should not set a precedent for disregarding murder.

One should remember that international law is not higher or more refined law than the ordinary criminal code of a civilised state; it is, on the contrary, the lowest common denominator to which all states, including a proportion definitely not civilised, can be brought to agree.

When the Hague and subsequent conventions were signed a degree of common civilisation was assumed to exist in the relations between states which can scarcely now be taken for granted. If opening fire from an embassy was not unthinkable, it was at least virtually impossible.

By acting in accordance with the spirit of the law rather than its letter we may well be setting a dangerous precedent. But those states whose bent is for no law will hardly be guided by precedent in their dealings with others, least of all a precedent established by a country they despise. The Iranians required no precedent for their action in 1980, nor the Libyans for their action this week. Such states and such people will not be encouraged to violence by our example in breaking international law (if we are indeed breaking it); they may well be discouraged by our example in upholding the common law of this country.

Yours,
MARTIN E. MALONEY,
43 Chisbury Street,
New North Road, N1,
April 18.

From Mr J. P. Hesselink
Sir, Your editorial dated April 19 has hit the nail on the head regarding the Vienna Convention. It has been apparent for quite some time that certain exporters of the revolution have been actively using the diplomatic pouch to transfer

weapons from one nation to another.

This misuse is highlighted by various acts of terrorist barbarism over the past few years, culminating in the shootings last Tuesday. If one wants to wipe out international terrorism the way to begin, it seems to me, is to close down the embassies of the nations involved and shut one's own missions in these countries in order to show them that terrorism does not pay.

Furthermore, Her Majesty's Government should take up contact with friendly nations to amend the above-mentioned convention so that the misuse of the facilities offered under the convention may be remedied.

Yours sincerely,
J. P. HESSELINK,
Jonghensstraat 6,
5643 JV Eindhoven,
The Netherlands,
April 19.

From Mr J. A. Lane
Sir, The gun outrage at the Libyan embassy would not have occurred had it not been for the stupid, unjustified practice of allowing aliens to stage demonstrations in our streets.

The right to demonstrate in the streets should be strictly reserved for our own nationals and the aliens told that, as guests in our country, they are required to behave with the decorum normally expected of guests.

Yours faithfully,
J. A. LANE,
Springfield,
Grove Park,
Stratton,
Bude,
Cornwall,
April 19.

Terror of the road

From Mrs M. J. Johnson

Sir, I can well imagine the kind of government that will purchase riot-suppressing equipment such as AMAC 1 (report, April 11, page 32) and the barbaric indiscriminate use to which it will be put. What is not fit to be used on European people is not fit to be used on any people.

Any country that manufactures equipment to abuse human rights may one day find such equipment in use on its own streets.

Yours truly,
M. J. JOHNSON,
144 Brookfield Lane,
Ormskirk,
Lancashire,
April 14.

The miners' strike

From Mr J. Montgomerie

Sir, There seems to be no possibility of meaningful negotiations between Mr MacGregor and Mr Scargill. Both are going all out for "victory". The leaders of the Government and of the Labour Opposition are lined up behind them. So a long battle seems inevitable.

Whoever wins, it will be disastrous for the miners, the mining industry and the economy. But there is an issue to be debated on pit closures and a compromise must be better than protracted war.

In times of recession it is tempting to make decisions for short-term gain which prove disastrous in the long run. Millions of tons of coal will be sealed off in the pits marked for closure, perhaps for ever. That coal is not Mr MacGregor's coal or Mr Scargill's coal, but the nation's coal, yours and mine.

When North Sea oil runs out and plutonium-based nuclear energy is finally accepted as being ruinously expensive as well as dangerous from

the point of view of security and the environment, there will be an upturn in the demand for coal. May we not miss the lost millions of tons? And even if there are no compulsory redundancies, the total workforce will be reduced. What jobs will there be for those who would have replaced wastages? And, when they are needed, will new recruits be available?

Since negotiations are impossible, a high-powered inquiry should be set up now, before too much is lost, to examine the economic and social implications in the long and short term of pit closures and to report and make recommendations within six months. Meanwhile closures should be suspended.

If either side rejects such a course it will be clear where the blame lies. But I would hope that it would bring about a speedy end to hostilities.

Yours,
J. MONTGOMERIE,
Two Birches,
Shawford,
Winchester,
Hampshire.

NCCL and racism

From Mr Tony Smythe

Sir, As you report (April 16) the NCCL's annual general meeting decided that its defence of civil liberties should no longer include organisations and opinions of which the members disapproved, namely, the National Front and other racists. A wide net has been cast so the exclusion list could be long.

Thus fifty years of integrity in principle and practice, with remarkably few lapses, were abandoned recklessly, together with the Charter of Civil Rights and Liberties which was issued recently to celebrate and identify the meaning of civil liberty in 1984.

I trust that even those who have not actively supported the NCCL will share my sadness as a former general secretary and will ponder the significance of such a retreat.

In the absence of any constitutional definition of civil liberty, the only measure for its defence is the commitment to apply the same standards to those whom we detest as we would to ourselves or those with whom we sympathize. Arguably, the only exceptions would be those, fortunately few in number, who place themselves, or are placed outside the law. Those who trust these decisions to the nature of the organisations and opinions they seek to proscribe, they evade the point.

The NCCL had given minimal assistance to the National Front, which had alleged grave deprivation of civil liberty. I myself would have gone further and made direct representations to the relevant authorities had the facts been confirmed and I did so on a number of occasions in similar circumstances. An abuse of power in one case can become, first a precedent, and then a routine.

The National Front will not suffer from the withdrawal of the NCCL's protection. It is the NCCL and the broad range of people and organisations which turn to it for help who lose out.

Yours faithfully,
TONY SMYTHE,
136 Stapleton Hall Road, N4,
April 16.

Girls in boys' schools

From Mr P. F. Watkinson

Sir, Your Education Correspondent, Miss Lucy Hodges, reported fairly (March 29) on a speech which I gave recently on "The call for co-education". Nevertheless, since this report led the President of the Girls' Schools Association to make a vigorous assault on what I said (April 9), may I please put my words into context.

Headmasters' Conference schools included almost no girls among their pupils 15 years ago. Now they have 10,500, spread among almost two thirds of their member schools. I described this as a revolution which was sudden and unsearched. It was largely based on convenience; the girls wanted to come and HMC schools were pleased to have them, both for their numbers and for their talents - what other motives applied with Oxbridge colleges?

The majority of boys' schools opened their doors only to girls entering their sixth forms. The inconvenience was minimal. They have remained boys' schools with unchanged male hierarchies. Dr John Rae has written of this change as "cosmetic co-education" and I expressed personal reservations about its being in the best interests of all the girls concerned.

Some 60 HMC schools, however, have committed themselves to having girls at all ages, and this number is growing. Whether they are yet "truly co-educational" is a matter for debate. They have a less good ratio of women to men in their common rooms than they have of girls to boys among their students (and so also do the mixed colleges at Oxford and Cambridge); few of them have women in senior positions of responsibility in their schools.

To that extent we must regard the revolution as incomplete. But those schools which have taken this course would claim it to be popular, enriching, natural and for some of them closer to their understanding of the nature of the Christian family.

Yours faithfully,
P. F. WATKINSON, Headmaster,
Rydal School,
Colwyn Bay, Clwyd.

Easing inner-city privation

From Mr A. H. Mallinson

Sir, "Comfortable Britain", to use a phrase coined by the Bishop of Liverpool in his Richard Dimbleby lecture, should take notice of what he said. I would like to ask the more aware of us to be of the point of view that there is excessive "dependency" on local and central government by inner-city residents.

This dependency can be ameliorated. Speaking as someone who has worked over the last two years in a dozen inner-city areas, I know that there is a large, pent-up unsatisfied demand for owner-occupied housing. At the same time there is a huge stock of substandard local authority housing much of which is difficult to let or unlettable.

Central government has made it possible, via grants, for local authorities to sell substandard housing stock to the private sector for rehabilitation and sale for owner-occupation.

What a tragedy it is that so many local authorities with urban problems shut their eyes to this solution; what a tragedy it is that the demand for owner-occupation is frustrated in this way; what a tragedy it is that "dependency" is fuelled by the refusal to allow those who want to help themselves to be unable to do so.

Yours faithfully,
A. H. MALLINSON,
Rosedown,
Berkley Gardens,
Stevens Lane,
Claygate,
Surrey,
April 18.

From Sir John Barnes

Sir, In his Dimbleby lecture, of which you offered a preview on April 17, the Bishop of Liverpool hit many balls straight to the boundary. But in echoing Disraeli and describing two Britains, "comfortable" and "other", he did rather give the impression that the "other" Britain was confined to the North-west and to Liverpool in particular.

It is common fallacy that here in Sussex we are an affluent society. True, there are affluent people among us; but there is much of what the Bishop calls "relative poverty", too. Many relatively affluent people retire to this part of England. We are

glad to welcome them. But not only do they raise the average age of our local population; they also push up the price of houses.

In the rural communities of East and West Sussex the earnings of wage-earners, though not incomes as a whole, are generally speaking, 10 per cent below the national average. The prices of houses are 10 per cent above it.

Young couples getting married and older people retiring from tied cottages can thus afford less and less to buy houses in their own villages. More and more they are forced to move into the towns, where they either swell the ranks of the unemployed or add a burden to the social services. Not for nothing has Hastings been described in your columns as the Jarrow of the South-east. Poverty is often concealed by pride but present all the same.

Nor are housing and unemployment the only problems. The Bishop spoke figuratively about doors changing shut against the deprived in the cities. In our villages doors are literally clanging shut; the doors of village shops which can no longer compete; the doors of buses which are withdrawn from service; the doors of telephone kiosks removed by British Telecom; the doors of sub-post offices; the doors of local doctors' surgeries; the doors of branches of high street banks.

We in the Sussex Rural Community Council, working with the local authorities and other bodies, do what we can to promote voluntary substitutes, for example community buses or village shops run by a roster of volunteers. But it is not easy for an ageing population to organise such ventures, with fewer and fewer younger people to help them to hew wood and draw water.

Not for a moment should I deny what Dr Sheppard says about the areas with which he is primarily concerned. But I wish he would come back to visit Sussex, for which he used to play cricket and where he should love to give him a net in the local economy.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BARNES, Chairman,
Sussex Rural Community Council,
Sussex House,
212 High Street,
Lewes,
East Sussex,
April 20.

VAT on building

From the Director of the Civic Trust

Sir, The continuing imposition of VAT by successive Chancellors upon the restoration and repair of old buildings, but not upon new building work, has for 10 years constituted a serious anomaly. The present Chancellor's proposals to extend these VAT arrangements to all building alterations and to make the sale of refurbished buildings an "exempt supply" for VAT purposes (thereby making it impossible to reclaim VAT on fees and other input costs) have stirred up even greater dismay.

In the light of information reaching us from a wide variety of sources the Chancellor's proposals would seem likely to result in:

1. Work being halted indefinitely on specific building rescue projects - more particularly the larger and more desirable schemes.
2. The demolition of worthwhile buildings, the adaptation of which will no longer be financially viable.
3. Lower standards of workmanship in those smaller schemes which may still go ahead.
4. Substantially increased demands

upon the National Heritage Memorial Fund and the new Commission for Historic Buildings and Monuments, all of whose available funds for the year would even previously have been committed after only six months or so of the new financial year.

At the root of the matter is the inconsistency of the Government's approach. Government policy is to assist the conservation of historic buildings and areas. If the stuffing is not to be knocked out of the charitable trusts and private owners who are labouring in this field, listed buildings and those in conservation areas should be zero-rated for repairs, restoration and alteration and, most important of all, on their subsequent sale or lease.

Alternatively, the Chancellor might care to consider applying VAT at a lower rate across the board on all building work, including new construction. This would at least remove the financial incentive to demolish and rebuild.

Yours etc,
MICHAEL MIDDLETON,
Director,
Civic Trust,
17 Carlton House Terrace, SW1,
April 12.

Sortie de Bayonne

From Sir Michael Wilford

Sir, I read with great interest the Duke of Wellington's letter (April 12) about the "Sortie de Bayonne". While serving in the Embassy at Paris in 1953-55 my wife and I spent our holidays twice in the Basque country and were surprised to see the sign, on the road leading south to Bayonne and Biarritz, "To the Colmar-Guards cemetery".

We speculated whether it dated from 1914-18 (which seemed very unlikely) or from 1940 (which seemed possible, since some of the BEF left from Bordeaux), but eventually curiosity got the better of us and we drove down the road following the signs.

As so often happens we ended in a farmyard! We were turning the car

round, assuming that we had taken the wrong road, when a lady emerged to ask if we were looking for the cemetery.

She invited us to follow her and some hundred yards or so later we came to a small, rather overgrown enclosure - the railings being of the kind so often seen round London gardens (before 1939-45). There seemed to be a dozen or more graves and we were told they were of British officers caught napping by the Bayonnais on their sortie. As I recall they included officers from the Rifle Brigade and the 60th.

The lady who guided us said that Queen Victoria on her visits to Biarritz had always paid a visit to "her Guards cemetery" and that King Edward VII had done the same. She said that her own grandmother had conducted Queen Victoria down the same path as she had taken us.

I am delighted to read of the celebrations of the 170th anniversary of the event and even more pleased that they could be of a Franco-British nature.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
MICHAEL WILFORD,
Brook Cottage,
Abbots Ann,
Andover, Hampshire,
April 18.

Keeping of secrets

From Mr Patrick Fitzgerald and Mr Jonathan Bloch

Sir, As we are both mentioned by name in your leading article of April 9 ("Secrets that should be kept") we expect you to print this reply.

The editorial implies that we "seem to disapprove of the very existence of M15 and M16": this is not a conclusion that can be drawn from reading *British Intelligence and Cover: Action*, however strongly (and incorrectly) the author may believe it.

The editorial further implies that the identification of anybody as an intelligence officer puts them at risk of assassination by the IRA or INLA, who do not bother to check the person's activities. There is no evidence whatsoever to support such a view and precious little logic both organizations have an obvious interest in uncovering intelligence operations before attacking the person concerned and much to lose in propaganda terms by "blowing up an unintended victim".

We freely admit ignoring D Notice no 6 (and several others besides). Neither ourselves nor our publishers are represented on the D Notice Committee, nor are we party to any other co-operation between Whitehall and the media.

Yours etc,
PATRICK FITZGERALD,
JONATHAN BLOCH,
87 Windus Rd, N16,
April 10.

Leisure activities

From Captain Roger Hamilton

Sir, The pattern of business activity in this very rural corner of England over the Easter period has an interest - and perhaps a moral.

On Good Friday the local shop was open as usual and even more supplies (but not newspapers, because there weren't any). On Saturday it was open for both commodities, on Sunday for papers only and on Monday, when the proprietor might have appreciated a lie-in, he had to deliver the papers as usual before 7 o'clock, closing thereafter for the Bank holiday.

The self-employed businessman worked on every day of the holiday weekend. Which service was closed from Thursday afternoon until Tuesday morning? The post office.

Yours faithfully,
R. HAMILTON,
West Dean,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire,
April 21.

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Questions and answers about Maxwell's plans

Whatever the outcome of Mr Robert Maxwell's breakfast time talk with Mr Rowland over the future of *The Observer*, the episode has answered one important question about Mr Maxwell and simultaneously restated another controversial issue surrounding his business strategy.

The question that has been answered is whether he still wants to be a Fleet Street newspaper proprietor. For the past two years, since he began the monumental and impressive rescue of BPCC, the former British Printing Corporation, he has persistently claimed that he had abandoned any such ambition. In 1968 he had bid for *The News of the World*, during the 1970s had shown interest in *The Observer*, and as recently as 1981 had joined the race for Times Newspapers. But subsequent inquiries were brushed aside on the basis that he wanted to print the national newspapers at a site on the Isle of Dogs. If he were to become a publisher of those titles as opposed to just a London evening paper, he argued, this would present an obvious conflict of interest which other Fleet Street proprietors would find hard to stomach.

One inference of his apparent change of heart is that Mr Maxwell has quietly accepted that the Fleet Street management will not give him their printing contracts, other than for the Sunday colour supplements. His hopes were always pinned on one proprietor signing on and the others falling into line.

However, he seems to be plunging into an even more fraught conflict of interest: if he were to win *The Observer*, should it be owned by BPCC or Pergamon Press? The indications so far have been that it will go into Pergamon, which is 100 per cent owned by Mr Maxwell's family through a Lichtenstein company. BPCC is 77 per cent owned by Pergamon, the other 23 per cent being held by the public through the stock market. The conflict could be resolved by merging them.

"There is no conflict," Mr Maxwell has said. "BPCC and Pergamon are in quite different fields. Why should I merge them?" But BPCC already prints *The Observer* colour magazine, and Mr Maxwell says he will print his planned London evening newspaper on *The Observer* presses. These deals will hardly be at arm's length. And if Mr Maxwell can strike a good manning deal with *The Observer* unions, it could be highly profitable. BPCC's minority shareholders might then feel aggrieved at being denied such an opportunity.

While *The Observer* case has highlighted the conflict, it has wide implications. Most worryingly, it is a conflict which existed when Pergamon itself was a public company and Mr Maxwell had other private interests. This was one of the issues at the root of the Pergamon controversy of 1969, which eventually led to Mr Maxwell taking it back under his total control. Let us hope that this time the conflict is resolved in a more orderly manner.

Wry smiles over Yellow Book

A new Yellow Book (the manual of listing requirements) is to be issued by the Stock Exchange Council early in the autumn and will be required reading for all those involved in bringing new companies to the market.

It will also provide a few wry smiles among those directors whose companies have locked horns with the Stock Exchange over listings being cancelled or admissions refused.

Members voted yesterday - those who turned up to the poorly attended meeting - to change the deeds of settlement to allow the exchange to become the body authorized to administer the new rules once the Department of Trade has scheduled these requirements into statutory instruments.

The new regulations cover admissions of companies, prospectuses and interim trading statements.

These should have been implemented in June, 1983, but have been held up by technicalities. Brussels is not going to cause enormous anguish in London especially as these new requirements in no way affect the fast-growing Unlisted Securities Market. But they are going to have a much more drastic effect on some of the more backward continental bourses and in this case harmonization can only provide opportunities for London as a financial centre which has already come to grips with modern methods of regulation.

The admission requirements involve little more than a change of format in London but do include a new right to a judicial review if a company's application is turned down or its existing listing cancelled. Exactly what form this legal appeal will take has yet to be decided but it will not be able to enforce an admission or revoke a cancellation. But a judge could issue a finding via a public statement on which a company could take further action.

The prospectus requirements involve a great deal more information than currently, but will have more immediate impact on those companies quoted on the New York and American stock exchanges. Because of the stringent requirements already imposed on the Americans they have usually concessionary treatment in London.

The EEC demands ought not to frighten US companies away, but they do involve far more detailed information with the inclusion of a responsibility statement from directors, something already required from British executives.

The new rules will come into force in January, 1985.

Listen to the White Paper critics

Governments and civil servants are understandably fond of the comforting saw that, if they are attacked equally from different sides of an argument, they must be getting things about right. Mr Alex Fletcher, the trade under-secretary, might apply precisely this piece of complacency based on experience to the reactions to his White Paper on insolvency law reform. But he should not.

The brunt of criticism has divided into two main arguments. One body of critics argues that the severity of the new penalties will put off good professional directors who might have contributed to make a company teetering on, but not yet over, the abyss. The latest contribution in this vein came yesterday from the National Chamber of Trade (forthrightly headquartered at Enterprise House, Henley-on-Thames), which opposes automatic disqualification of directors in compulsory liquidations.

"The prospect is even more worrying in the case of the non-executive director, who may well have no stake in the company and may even have been appointed merely as a watchdog for a loan creditor," says the Chamber.

The other main argument, echoed yesterday by the Society of Conservative Accountants, slates Whitehall for pussy-footing over the present privileges of government and public bodies, which Sir Kenneth Cork wanted to abolish, which damage the small business creditor, and which are left untouched in the White Paper.

Mr Fletcher should not brush aside these criticisms. In one sense, they are inter-linked. The harsh penalties for directors, though not as widely drawn as many would wish, have become the star feature of the White Paper precisely because so little has been done in straightforward financial terms to ease the lot of unsecured creditors. The White Paper, though taking many steps in the right direction, always laid most emphasis on the convenience of Whitehall than the plight of those caught up in insolvency. There is a case for a rethink.

Dollar strengthens on hopes of higher US interest rates

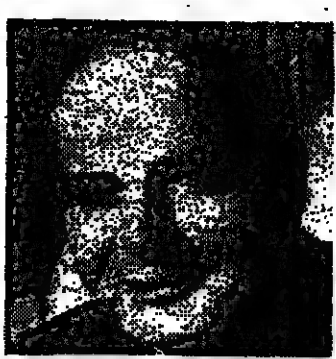
By Frances Williams, Economics Correspondent

The dollar made fresh gains on the world currency markets yesterday as rising inflation and signs of a still-booming economy strengthened expectations of higher American interest rates.

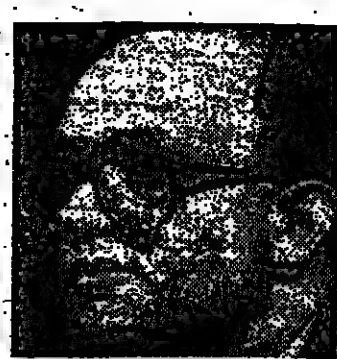
The pound fell 0.85 cents to \$1.4099, its lowest closing level since the end of January and not far off its all-time low of \$1.3910, touched in the same month. But despite worries over the miners' strike, sterling rose against European currencies, to leave its trade-weighted index unchanged at 79.2.

The Deutschmark, hit by industrial troubles in Germany, lost 1.65 pfennings to the dollar, which closed in London at a nine-week high of DM 2.6810.

The United States Department of Commerce announced yesterday that consumer prices rose by 4.7 per cent in the 12



Paul Volcker: tight rein on money growth



Martin Feldstein: economy not overheating

months to March, the biggest annual increase since autumn 1982. Although the rise in prices in March was only 0.2 per cent, rather less than analysts had expected, the annual rate has been climbing steadily since its nadir of 2.4 per cent last summer.

Dr Martin Feldstein, the President's chief economic adviser, claimed yesterday that the small March rise was evidence that the economy was not overheating, but many Wall Street economists remain unconvinced. Their fears were fuelled by

separate figures yesterday which showed big increases in orders for machinery and other capital goods in the early months of the year.

After last week's news that United States gross national product grew at an annual rate of 8.3 per cent in the first quarter of the year, a pace that both the White House and Wall Street regard as unsustainable without rekindling inflation, the latest figures have reinforced fears that the Federal Reserve Board will push interest rates up again.

American banks recently raised their prime lending rates from 11 to 12 per cent, the highest level for 18 months. Money market rates have eased from the highs seen this month but most Wall Street operators believe that the Fed, under its chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, is determined to keep a tight rein on money growth.

New doubts over Esal group rescue plan

By Philip Robinson

Fresh doubts have been raised over whether a rescue package for the Esal (Commodities) group of companies will be supported by unsecured creditors owed a total of between \$30m and \$50m (£21.3m and £35.5m).

The package, prepared by seven bankers to Esal led by the Punjab National Bank and circulated at the weekend, contains no proposal to inject fresh capital into the Esal businesses which have not traded since January and whose assets are presently frozen by a High Court injunction.

There are no offers of payments of any significant size to unsecured creditors, no individual value placed on assets being put forward as an additional \$18m security, and no plans to pay unsecured trade and non-trade creditors for six months.

The new collateral is broadly referred to as "various properties in the UK and USA, various sundry debtors, shares in a New York bank (unspecified) various racing and breeding horses".

The additional security is believed to bring the total value of assets of the Esal group to between \$150m and \$180m against total disclosed debts of \$212m.

However, the rescue scheme could still go ahead without the approval of all creditors. The package says approval is needed from those holding 90 per cent of the total disclosed debts in value for it to go ahead.

The banks, the Punjab National Bank of India, Middle East Bank, Union Bank of India, Johnson Matthey Bankers, Oriental Credit and Allied Bank, are owed about \$160m. It is unlikely that all the unsecured creditors would act together and dissent would give the banks the required 90 per cent approval.

These companies deemed to form part of the Esal group are: Esal (Commodities), Dollacrow, Russel Fibre Dealers, Levenco International, Esal (Fashions) Quotberry, Broughland, Globalbridge, Stanton International, Rowen International and Whitcross Development Corporation.

The new rescue steering committee will be headed by a representative of the Middle East Bank, and will have one representative from the Punjab National Bank, one from Fear Marwick Mitchell and one representing all other creditors.

In return for agreement the banks will offer a standby credit facility of a maximum \$5m.

Video trust to raise £4m

By William Kay, City Editor

London and Liverpool Trust, the company which was nearly brought to its knees by the controversial Telejector pub video venture, plans to raise nearly £4m over the next few months through a series of disposals.

This was revealed yesterday by Mr Geoffrey Cross, the chief executive, when the group announced two disposals for about £1.3m.

The first is a pair of allied businesses, James B. Russell and James B. Russell (Newcastle), which distribute U-Bix photocopyers in the Glasgow and Newcastle upon Tyne areas.

These operations are profitable in themselves and fit in with LIT's new strategy, but last year they took on considerable extra overheads to handle Telejector.

They have been sold to Ygred, a newly formed private Scottish company, for £1m cash, plus about £250,000 to be paid after the debtors position has been established. The directors of Ygred have no previous connection with LIT.

Mr James Russell has now resigned from the board of LIT. In December, Telejector's sales operation was closed and this month the management of

the 2,200 video sets was transferred to another private company, Atlas Leisure. The second disposal is Hiatt Hardware, a distributor of fastenings, for £91,000 to Mr A. Yelland, a director of another LIT offshoot until last May. Net assets of Hiatt at March 31, 1983, were £17,000 and pretax profits for the year to that date were £36,000.

LIT's plan now is to concentrate on office equipment. It intends to sell interests in exhaust manufacturing and distribution, and engineering including the manufacture of hand cuffs.

Brengreen sacks deputy chairman

By Jeremy Warner

Brengreen Holdings, the commercial cleaning group, has dismissed its deputy chairman, Mr Roy Agar, for undisclosed reasons.

Mr Agar is the second long-standing director of Brengreen, which specializes in local authority refuse collection and street cleaning contracts to be dismissed in the last three years.

Mr Tony Berry was fired as a director in December, 1981, after falling out with Mr David Evans, chairman and creator of the group.

Brengreen's share price fell 1½p to a low for the year of 52p yesterday after news of Mr Agar's dismissal. At one stage last year, the company's shares were riding high at 114p anticipating huge benefits for Brengreen from the Government's policy of contracting out Health Service ancillary services.

But ever since the group made an abortive £36m takeover bid for Sunlight Services last autumn, the shares have fallen.

Mr Agar, who was appointed to the post of deputy chairman last November, sold 150,000 of his Brengreen shares at 67p each this year.

Chief quits at Crocker

The first major managerial change at Midland Bank's unprofitable American banking subsidiary, Crocker National Corporation, was announced yesterday. Mr J. Hallam Dawson has resigned as a director and vice chairman of the corporation and as a director and president of the banking subsidiary, Crocker National Bank.

The resignation is the first real consequence of a new managerial team already introduced by Midland. Then, Mr John Harris was appointed senior vice chairman and Mr Frank Cabotet chairman and chief executive officer.

Hongkong shares slip

The Hongkong stock market plunged yesterday when it reopened after the Easter holiday - its first chance to show the local reaction to Sir Geoffrey Howe's weekend acknowledgment that Britain will yield sovereignty to China in 1997.

The Hang Seng index fell by 45.83 to 1,070.02 - its biggest one-day decline since Jardine Matheson said last month that it was moving its head office domicile to Bermuda.

Stock markets, page 20

STOCK EXCHANGES	
FT-SE 100 Index: 1105.4 down 3.0 (day's high: 1105.6; Low: 1102.6)	
FT Index: 867.2 down 3.8	
FT All Share: 516.79 down 3.38	
Bargains: 20,000	
Datamark USM Leaders Index: 113.4 down 0.27	
New York Dow Jones Industrial Average: (latest) 1149.29 down 0.31	
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 151,761.82 down 45.83	
Hongkong Hang Seng Index 1070.02 down 45.83	
Amsterdam: 170.1 down 0.9	
Sydney: AO Index 759.2 unchanged	
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1021.8 down 1.11	
Paris: CAC Index 173.4 up 0.4	

CURRENCIES	
LONDON CLOSE	
Sterling \$1.4099 down 82pts	
Index 79.8 unchanged	
DM 2.6775 up 0.0075	
FF 11.6075 up 0.0275	
Yen 161 down 1.0	
Dollar Index 128.6 up 0.8	
DM 2.6810 up 0.0165	
Sterling \$1.4075	
Dollar DM 2.6830	
INTEREST RATES	
Domestic rates:	
Bank base rates 8%	
Finance houses base rates 9%	
Discount market loans week fixed 5½-8%	
3 month interbank 8¼-8½%	
Euro-currency rates:	
3 month US \$ 10½-11	
3 month DM 5½-5%	
3 month FF 13-12½%	
US rates:	
Bank prime rate 12.00	
Fed funds 9½	
Treasury long bond 9¾-9¾%	
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period March 7 1984 to April 3, 1984 inclusive: 8.976 per cent.	

GOLD	
London fixed (per ounce):	
am 3384.60 pm 3383.25	
close 3383.50-384 (£272.25-£272.75)	
New York (latest): 3383.75	
Kruggerand (per coin):	
\$395.396-50 (\$280.25-281.50)	

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INCREASE OF £6.3 MILLION

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	£ million		£ million
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1969	17.010	1976	3.279
1970	15.823	1977	2.805
1971	14.409	1978	1.945
1972	13.230	1979	.912
1973	11.235	1980	.626
1974	7.160	1981	.494
1975	5.646	1982	.436

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Telerate record

Telerate, the British-owned financial news service based in New York, reported record profits and earnings yesterday. This is good news for Exco International, the London money brokers which is a majority shareholder.

Net income was up 52 per cent in the second quarter to US\$6.9m (£5m) from \$4.5m (£3.2m) the year before. Earnings per share jumped to 16 US cents (11.4p) from 11 cents (7.8p) a year earlier. During the intervening period, Telerate issued an extra 4.4 million shares. Gross revenue rose 47 per cent to \$22.7m (£16.2m), from \$15.5m (£11m) in the same period in 1983.

© RUSH & TOMKINS GROUP, the property and construction company, announced a rise in pretax profits from £2.3m to £2.8m for last year. Net assets per share are up from 341p to 379p after a directors' revaluation of group properties. *Tempos*, page 20

© NURDIN & PEACOCK is recommending a final payment of 2.1p for a full year dividend of 3.57p (3.12p) for the year ended December 31, 1983. Sales were £516m (£462m), and profits £12m (£11.5m). *Tempos*, page 20

Nasdim rejects Gower on commission

By Our City Staff

The National Association of Security Dealers and Investment Managers (Nasdim) yesterday rejected any proposals which allow the Government to get commission rates for the investment industry.

In its published response to Professor Laurence Gower's report on investor protection, Nasdim says that Ministers

should not be allowed to make regulations controlling the commissions of paid intermediaries who deal with investments.

Nasdim's view that these should be determined by the industry itself comes when the life assurance industry is attempting to set up a voluntary control of commissions.

The self regulatory group, now a recognized organization by the Department of Trade and Industry is broadly in favour of Professor Gower's proposals and supports a revived Council for the Securities Industry to act as co-ordinator of the City's self regulatory groups.

Currency move follows Ghana's example

Nigeria's copybook swap

By Our City Staff

Nigeria's sudden replacement of its old naira currency with new bank notes announced late on Monday is likely to have only a minimal impact on international business, according to financial sources in London yesterday.

The huge currency swap operation being undertaken there appears to be a copybook exercise of the one carried out by Ghana three years ago, British sources said.

Announcing the new currency measures, the Nigerian military government said it had closed the country's land borders to stop the smuggling of naira which had become a key factor in the "sabotage" of the country's economy.

Brigadier-Tunde Idiagbon, who ranks second in the Nigerian administration, said on television that the new measure was directed to render naira notes held abroad worthless.

The exchange of old notes for new which started yesterday would last until May 6. Individuals would be allowed to change only 5,000 naira (about £4,600) for new notes. Any amount above that would have to be deposited with banks along with information on ownership and source of earnings, a move designed to pinpoint corruption.

"There is no good time to undertake such an operation, but if you have to try and curb

the activities of currency smugglers or money hoarders, it is probably sensible for the new military regime to do it when it is able to station troops outside banks, if necessary, to ensure that it all happens in a rigidly-controlled way," one banker said.

The banker added that foreign firms involved in the import-export business are unlikely to have been doing business on contracts quoted in Naira. If they have been, they would have been doing so against guarantees of letters of credit.

"Nigerian subsidiaries of foreign companies would almost certainly have larger flows of naira than might normally be the case."

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West Indian fast bowlers on the horizon as the cricket season gets underway

Perilous express delivery on its way

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

Most of what has happened since the cricket season opened at Fenner's a week ago has been sufficient to make one wonder, anxiously, how much longer they can retain their first-class status. Today, at Lord's, things begin to move in earnest when MCC meet Essex, the county champions, in what has become, over the years, a useful guide to form.

Any decision to deprive the ancient universities of their standing will not be lightly taken. It would signal the end for two of the game's great nurseries. Though less productive than they were, because of the increasingly disproportionate emphasis on things academic, they are still a valuable source of supply. Even so, they have had a bad few days and their decision to send for an old Blue to lead them through their opening matches.

After a winter of such little achievement, you would think that in the coming months England's fortunes can but improve. Yet who will be here in barely a fortnight's time but the all-conquering West Indians, captained once again by Clive Lloyd. I am not quite sure why they are coming, with England about to play rugby in South Africa, except that the vast majority of West Indians, both here and in the Caribbean, would be disappointed if they didn't. Another case, it could be said, of political expediency.

In theory the West Indians should be entering a vulnerable phase. Lloyd will be 40 in August; Richards, now aged 32, is not quite the player he was; Holding, at 30, and Garner, at 31, are not as fit as they were, and in the middle of the order there will be batsmen who have yet to make a real mark in Test cricket. If Richardson from Antigua is a star in the making, I doubt whether Loe, the little Trinidadian, is. Yet they have spent the winter sweeping all opposition aside — first India in India, then Australia and Pakistan in Australia, and finally Australia in West Indies.

The reason for this, unfortunately, is their fast bowling, not least the depth of it. I say "unfortunately" because of the monotony of watching speed, and relieved by spin, for hour after hour and day after day. When the variety of the game is reduced, so also is its charm. The more basic it becomes, the less fun it is to play. This time West Indies are bringing no fewer than six bowlers who hurt the ball down; what is worse, they will be under no obligation to bowl a



Full speed ahead: Marshall (left), Holding (centre) and Garner

minimum number of overs in a day, the Test and County Cricket Board having tried but failed to convince the West Indians of the benefits of this.

The effect of it all on batsmen is cumulative, physically as well as mentally. Last winter the South Africans had their first taste of it as a way of playing the game. Although their opponents were not from the front line of West Indian fast bowlers, the outcome was the same. In the end they were pummeled to defeat. Since the middle Seventies, when West Indies first developed an attack based exclusively on speed, they have lost only one Test series, a short one against New Zealand in 1979-80 when Richards was an absentee. In captaining them Lloyd has had to do no more than keep his heavy guns firing, often pitching as short as the umpire have allowed.

Leading West Indies is a sinecure compared with leading a side against them. It would be a great and timely boost for England if they could win the Test matches this summer. They will be captained, no doubt, by David Gower,

not before time, but because the West Indian Board insisted upon it they will have to make do without Gooch, Boycott, Emburey, Underwood and all the others who went to South Africa two years ago. West Indies are hard enough to beat with a full side, let alone a weakened one.

But nobody, it seems to me, is going to have a more taxing season than the appointed panel of Test match umpires — namely, Messrs Bird, Constant, Evans, Meyer and Oslear. Upon their interpretation of what constitutes "intimidatory" bowling may depend the tenor of the series. Here, so that you may judge for yourself, is the wording of the relevant section of Law 42: "Umpires shall consider intimidation to be the deliberate bowling of fast, short-pitched balls which by their length, height and direction are intended or likely to inflict physical injury on the striker. The relative skill of the striker shall be taken into consideration." To curtail the use of such bowling is not an option available to umpires, but their duty, and one that has been widely neglected for far too

long. Hence the armour with which batsmen now equip themselves.

To strike the right balance will need courage as well as judgment on the part of the five wise men. As many West Indians as Englishmen are likely to attend the Test matches, Englishmen among them are no more going to enjoy the sight of England's batsmen being hit than West Indians are of their bowlers being "warmed". In 1976, when the England selectors were looking for batsmen to blunt the West Indian fast bowlers, they turned to such old campaigners as Close and Steele, but England still lost the last three Test matches. It is, in fact, 15 years since West Indies were beaten in England; since the end of the Packer intervention they have played 34 Test matches, of which they have lost only two. Never before has a side come so near to achieving accuracy from defeat, or set out to do so more systematically.

Since the England team returned from Pakistan a month ago, I have been interested to read the opinions of two of the game's senior and most respected players, Bob Taylor and the new chairman of the Cricketers' Association, Geoff Cook. Taylor first: "They [some of his younger colleagues in the winter] seem much less conscientious about their game these days... the entire approach of many of them is less professional than it used to be... they have grown up in a different age and standards have changed, but it is my personal view that they haven't changed for the better."

Cook's comments, also in *The Mail on Sunday*, may be seen as a plea to the TCCB. "Punishments are not severe enough. If a player is reported to Lord's and they find he has brought the game into disrepute, then he should be suspended. It is not only cricketers who feel that the field, as well as the pitch, the rules and the spirit of the game need tightening up."

To end on a more cheerful note, we shall see, I am sure, some dramatically exciting cricket, and the summer promises the finest start to a season since 1976. That was the last time the corresponding match to today's at Lord's was not wretchedly cold and wet. A year ago, not a ball was bowled on any of the three days. Bookings for the main matches have been heavy, and hopes are high in most counties that they have among their ranks a young player or two who will help to restore England's fortunes, if not against West Indies this year then against Australia next. So now to Lord's, to see some of them.

Miss Budd unlikely to run into significant opposition

By Pat Butcher

Miss Budd, only Janet Price and Sue Burtonwood have any credentials. Miss Price is a former international, who has recently returned to training, and Miss Burtonwood was last season's indoor intermediate 1,500 metres champion, with a time that would leave her half the finishing straight behind an in-form Miss Budd.

None the less, the Crystal Palace authorities will need some extra staff, to cope with the thousands that will want to see Miss Budd's performance.

Hopefully, they will stay and watch the men's match between the Southern Counties, Loughborough Students, London University and the Civil Service, where other Olympic hopefuls like Chris McGeorge, Iken Billy, Jack Buckner, Geoff Parsons and Mark Naylor will be parading their considerable talents.

Miss Budd's Olympic future may be decided as early as this Friday, at the eligibility meeting of the International Olympic Committee at Lausanne. The head of the commission, Willi Daume, intends to bring up Miss Budd's change of nationality, although it is not on the formal agenda.

Gunnar Ericsson, another member of the eligibility committee, said yesterday: "It is crucial that she will be able to compete at Los Angeles, according to the information that I have received on her." Mr Ericsson said that IOC rules were very clear concerning naturalized athletes — there is a three-year waiting period before they can compete for their new nation. But British officials contend that Miss Budd is a British citizen by right, and does not require the naturalization process.

RUGBY UNION
Bath prefer Redman to HakinBy David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

Nigel Redman, an England Colt last season, will play at lock in the Bath team which will be captained by Bristol. There will, however, be much sympathy for Hakin, whose form before Christmas was exceptional, given the emphasis on mobility which Bath demand.

Redman, aged 19, and a member of England's under-23 party to Spain next month, will bring added solidity to Bath scrum likely to be outwitted by Bristol. There will, however, be much sympathy for Hakin, whose form before Christmas was exceptional, given the emphasis on mobility which Bath demand. Hill and Cunningham first indicated their recovery from injuries by playing in two games over Easter, as did Chilcott, the prop, who required much fitness after a period of suspension. Bath, playing the bulk of their second team, lost 9-6 to Glamorgan Wanderers on Monday, while Bristol, also fielding what amounted to a second team, beat Aberystwyth 32-0.

Bristol have few injury problems. They are optimistic that Barnes has recovered from an ankle injury suffered in a game against Gloucester, who had a knee injury but seems certain to play.

Bristol, probably, will play at lock in the Bath team which will be captained by Bristol. There will, however, be much sympathy for Hakin, whose form before Christmas was exceptional, given the emphasis on mobility which Bath demand.

ICE HOCKEY
Whitley pay for casual approach

By Robert Pryce

Alfie Miller's attempts to defuse championship fever may have been successful, but the Whitley Bay player-coach returned from holiday in Majorca on Saturday in time to play against Ayr Bruins. A team Whitley have beaten at home and away in recent weeks.

The road to Wembley is paved with insurance. Whitley went down to a 10-3 home defeat. "They just didn't want to be motivated," Miller said. Ayr fell behind to a goal from Peter Smith, but then took an unshakeable grip on the game with a determination that had been lacking the previous evening, when they lost 10-2 at Durham. "It was a bit of a shock to see them so suited to water polo," according to one player, Jamie Crapper, who has been scoring goals on any surface short of brown sugar, overcame the problems set by mere melting ice in scoring five goals.

Durham and Murraysfield have now qualified for the British championship semi-finals, sponsored by Heineken, at Wembley in 10 days' time. Ayr and Dundee are favoured to join them.

Dundee's mood fell just short of insouciance after their first home defeat of the season, 6-5 to Murraysfield. "It didn't really affect us on a spiritual level," Ray Halpin, their player-coach, claimed, adding that their performance had been an improvement on recent weeks. Jim Lynch scored the deciding goal in 25 seconds.

Dundee recovered to win 7-4 at Strathern.

VOLLEYBALL
Men reach peak as women lose ground

By Paul Harrison

By winning four out of seven matches, England's men finished sixth in the Spring Cup competition in Majorca, which ended at the weekend. It was the men's best showing in the tournament.

Playing off for ninth to twelfth places, they came from behind to beat both Austria and Denmark 3-2. It was England's fighting spirit that most impressed, and Stuart Fullerton's blocking, Martin Hodges's setting and Phil Newton's captaincy stood out. Spain, the hosts, beat the Netherlands in the final 3-2.

For the women, the tournament in West Germany was less happy. They finished fourteenth, winning only two out of six games, and have slipped from the high point of eighth place in last year's tournament, when they did have the advantage of being hosts and having a relatively friendly draw. West Germany retained the title, beating the Netherlands again, 3-0, in the final.

Boxing
Boaster sets his jaw at Christie

By Bryan Stiles

Stacey McSwain, a brash young American, swaggered into town yesterday boasting of his boxing prowess, crowing that he had been predicted to beat the best of them and predicting that he would give the rising British middleweight, Errol Christie, a painful lesson tonight.

Bravura and self-belief can be a healthy stock-in-trade for a boxer, but McSwain's boasting might have carried a little more weight if he had shown he was smart enough to work out the year of his birth.

McSwain's publicity handout claimed he was 23, he said he was 19, but in the end he was 20. His recollection of details of his early boxing career were also somewhat hazy and his claim that he usually had just five or six days' notice of a bout all began to raise doubts.

But there is no doubting his intention of trying to halt the

unbeaten Christie in his tracks at the Alexandra Palace pavilion tonight. His sales pitch went like this: "I am exceptionally good. People underestimate me. From what I hear Christie is a good fighter and it is time for me to take him to school. I have been in there with the very best."

McSwain certainly went the full 10 rounds with Wilfred Benitez, the former triple world champion, of Coventry, is regarded as a genuine world title contender and should end his boasting tonight. Starting the top of the bill will be Jimmy Price, of Liverpool, who takes a giant step in class when he meets Ayo Kalule, the former world light-middletweight champion. The Uganda-born boxer, who is now naturalised Danish citizen, lost his world title to Sugar Ray Leonard in June, 1981.

Montero puts Magri on the shelf

Paris (Reuter) — Plans for a European flyweight title bout between Charlie Magri of Britain and the holder, Antonio Montero of France, have been shelved. Montero, a French citizen, will fight Bernal of Mexico for the world Boxing Council (WBC) title in Nimes on June 1, which rules out a

bout against Magri next month. Montero went to Los Angeles last Tuesday for three weeks' training for the world title attempt. Jimmy Price and Said Seppala of Finland will fight in Toulouse on May 25 for the European light-middletweight title vacated by Horat Graham.

FOR THE RECORD

HANDBALL
European Cup final: France 11-10 (aet) Germany. Final positions: 1, France; 2, Germany; 3, Spain; 4, Poland; 5, USSR; 6, Czechoslovakia; 7, Hungary; 8, Yugoslavia; 9, Bulgaria; 10, Romania; 11, Italy; 12, USSR; 13, Poland; 14, Czechoslovakia; 15, Hungary; 16, Bulgaria; 17, Romania; 18, Italy; 19, USSR; 20, Poland; 21, Czechoslovakia; 22, Hungary; 23, Bulgaria; 24, Romania; 25, Italy; 26, USSR; 27, Poland; 28, Czechoslovakia; 29, Hungary; 30, Bulgaria; 31, Romania; 32, Italy; 33, USSR; 34, Poland; 35, Czechoslovakia; 36, Hungary; 37, Bulgaria; 38, Romania; 39, Italy; 40, USSR; 41, Poland; 42, Czechoslovakia; 43, Hungary; 44, Bulgaria; 45, Romania; 46, Italy; 47, USSR; 48, Poland; 49, Czechoslovakia; 50, Hungary; 51, Bulgaria; 52, Romania; 53, Italy; 54, USSR; 55, Poland; 56, Czechoslovakia; 57, Hungary; 58, Bulgaria; 59, Romania; 60, Italy; 61, USSR; 62, Poland; 63, Czechoslovakia; 64, Hungary; 65, Bulgaria; 66, Romania; 67, Italy; 68, USSR; 69, Poland; 70, Czechoslovakia; 71, Hungary; 72, Bulgaria; 73, Romania; 74, Italy; 75, USSR; 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Racing: Champion jockey receives four-day suspension from Epsom stewards

Vidalia can lead off memorable day for Eddery

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Ian Balding and Pat Eddery could be the combination to follow at Epsom today. It is difficult to escape the view that they have a good chance of winning the Princess Elizabeth Stakes and the Warren Stakes, the two main races with Vidalia and Spicy Story respectively. If that happens Eddery should crown a fine afternoon by winning the Great Metropolitan Handicap on Moon Mariner, who will relish both the distance and the fast ground.

Even the briefest of glances through Horses in Training will confirm that Balding has a strong hand of three-year-olds this season. A point-bourne one at Kempton Park last Saturday when Clare Bridge won the Masaka Stakes on her reappearance.

Now, in an attempt to win today's feature race for a third time - he did so twice in the 70s with Elegant Tern and Memory Lane - Balding is saddling Glimmering in addition to Vidalia, in the Princess Elizabeth. Both are bred in the purple - Glimmering being a half sister to Gilt of Gold by Troy; Vidalia by Nijinsky, the last winner of the triple crown, and out of that top-class mare, Wava.

Of the two I prefer Vidalia, who looked the sharper as a two-year-old. She ended last season with a victory in Rome, having run well behind Mahogany at Newmarket before that. Kaniz, who finished behind her in Mahogany's race at Newmarket is one of Vidalia's rivals.

Balearc, a filly by Bustino and out of a sister to that fast horse Runnet, comes from a stable in form. But she has a lot to make up on Vidalia on paper. Spicy Story, my selection for the Warren Stakes has won over a mile and three furlongs at Newbury already this season. So, he ought to have no trouble in lasting the extra furlong this afternoon. That race at Newbury should give him the edge as far as fitness is concerned and enable him to get his own back on Gambler's Cup who beat him by a head at Goodwood last year.

Van Dyke Brown's winning form over a mile and a half at Thirkby earlier this month took a bit of a knock at Kempton on Monday when Librate, his victim at Thirkby, could finish only second in a fairly humdrum handicap. In the circumstances, I will not be surprised if Axios, who is by the 1978 Derby winner Shirley Heights and from the same female family as two other Derby winners, Blakeney and Morston, turns out to be Spicy Story's main stumbling block.

On breeding Vidalia will be much more at ease racing over today's distance than he was over only seven furlongs at Lingfield Park last year.

Moon Mariner, runner-up in both his races this season and far from disgraced in last year's Cesarewitch, could be a third winner for Eddery. Even under his big weight he will never have a better opportunity of winning a marathon than he will in today's Great Metropolitan Handicap.

Banned Carson misses Guineas

By Michael Seely

Willie Carson will miss the moment on Sunday when he is to ride the 1000 Guineas after being banned for four days for careless riding at Epsom yesterday. His sentence will run from May 3-6 inclusive. Last season the former champion jockey was disqualified for a total period of 24 days for three separate offences in this country. The apparent severity of these sentences was partly responsible for the totting up system of penalties being abolished.

Carson on Guess Agn and Steve Canthen, who was riding Premier Coup, were engaged in a desperate duel in the closing stages of the Bembury Stakes. After Premier Coup had passed the post a short head to the good, Carson lodged an objection on the grounds of bumping in the last furlongs. His protest was overruled and his 525 deposit was ordered to be forfeited, but the placings remained unaltered as the stewards considered that they had not been affected.

The camera patrol film showed that Carson was riding hard all the time he was making his effort and Guess Agn bumped the winner twice. In Carson's defence it must be said that there was no room for him to have switched his whip into the other hand, Carson said that he would not be appealing and when asked if he thought the sentence was fair he replied: "You'd better ask Steve Canthen."

The result of the Blue Riband Trial Stakes shed little light on the classic picture. After a thrilling battle in the straight, George Duffield drove Long Pond past the post a short head in front of Darell McFarlane's mount, Trial By Error.

Lester Piggott had launched a daring challenge to a furlong from home, but Henry Cecil's three-year-old then tried to



Long Pond (nearside) inches out Trial By Error in yesterday's Blue Riband Trial Stakes at Epsom. Alleging (far side) takes third place (Photograph: Ian Stewart).

was beaten a further half a length. Western Symphony, a well backed favourite, had little room in which to make his run, but the trouble of Vincent O'Brien's three-year-old were mostly of his own making. Duffield rode an inspired race and Trial By Error appeared to have his nose everywhere but on the post. Long Pond was making only his second racecourse appearance, having previously finished runner-

up to Bank Parade in the Wood Ditton Stakes at Newmarket last week. 53-1 was offered against the winner for the Derby afterwards. "You've got to say that Long Pond will handle the track," Paul Kelleway, the winning trainer said. "But I want time to consider whether he would win at Nottingham. But you know me, he could run anywhere."

The George Wigg Memorial City

Corramacorra ends Tilbrook's long wait

Point-to-point, by Brian Beel

A lifetime's ambition was achieved at the South and West Wiltshire point-to-point on Saturday when Tom Tilbrook rode his first winner. The combined age of Tilbrook and Corramacorra, his only horse, is 78. Tilbrook will not readily admit to his age, but Corramacorra does not mind letting it be known that he is 14.

The nonsensical point-to-point, an assistant trainer, who is paid to ride out on racehorses every day, may ride as an amateur, while a kennel houndman may not, prevented Tilbrook from racing until well into his fifties.

Another rider with good cause to remember Saturday was Sue Taylor, who notched her first win when riding Princess Lina at the Vale of Aylesbury. The Vintner started at 4-1 on in the ladies' open, but shipped up in the treacherous ground.

Victory went to Mrs C. G. Cambridge, who sold out of Roy Cambridge's yard at Shifnal continue to do well in point-to-points. These have included O'Down, Brian Park and Tigerland and on Saturday Honorable Enoch and Fletty Clive won at the North Staffordshire. Simon Crank maintained his lead in the north-west riders' championship by winning the open on Parc-A-Vel was the fastest time of the day.

Long Journeys to Tweseldown by Crafty Look (Essex & Suffolk) and Macturk (Mendip) paid off when they won the ladies and men's open races respectively at the Hursley Hambleton on Saturday and the Huddersfield, Leconfield and Cawdron on Monday.

Prunus Persica, after finishing third in the men's open at the Huddersfield on Saturday, was a favourite to win the maiden race at the Bedale and West of York but was beaten a head by Fanta's Girl. Chris Cundall, her rider, initiated a double in the open on Be Free.

Flying Ace continues his domination north of the border. He scored his 15th consecutive win in the ladies open at the Lullington and Stirlingshire but, disappointingly, will not be coming down to the evergreen Great Cawdron on Saturday. Grand Prix de Cassé, Lucy Dun was injured when falling on Blencathra in a tight finish with Nelsa's Beach in the restricted open. In the same race Missomoga, who recently won the maiden at the Huddersfield, broke two legs and had to be destroyed.

With Lucky Friday winning at Terec, all three horses from Andrew Congdon's stable have been successful this season. Lucky Friday won again at Eggesford in Monday. In the Massey region, the evergreen Great Cawdron rode his 20th point-to-point winner, making all to score impressively on McNabs Quest. The combination also ran again on Monday, when they were defeated in the residents at closing at the Eggesford. Chris Bird also had a double in weekend meetings winning at the Hursley Hambleton on Saturday and the Huddersfield, Leconfield and Cawdron on Monday.

Setback for Francome

John Francome, the champion National Hunt jockey, will be out of action for a few days after injuring his left leg when riding on Monday. He was riding on Monday, on Rhythmic Pastimes. Francome said: "I banged my leg on a plastic rail around the bottom bend. It did not trouble me until I got home, but it then needed three stitches. I hope to be back for the Whitbread Gold Cup on Saturday."

Fred Winter, said: "I think John was lucky his leg wasn't broken. The cut is on the inside, just where the

leather goes and the stitches will need to be there."

Two course records were broken at Eggesford on Monday and two more went on the hard ground there yesterday. Les Kennard, who was responsible for one on Monday when King's Bishop, provided another round the bottom bend, with Leocadia, who won the Cantler Handicap in the Welsh Novices' Championship Chase. Megarot knocked almost four seconds off the record set only yesterday by Lucifer.

EPSOM

Draw: up to 1m 2f, Low numbers best
Total double: 3.5, 4.10, Treble: 2.30, 2.35, 4.45
2.0 CUDGINGTON MAIDEN ACUTION STAKES (2-y-o: £2,197: 50) (15 runners)

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries: Peter Dear & Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.30 **Cee-fax AM**.
 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours; sport at 8.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; television preview at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; Mike Smith with new Top Twenty between 7.45 and 8.00; horoscopes at 8.30.

9.00 **Battle of the Planets**.
 Animated science fiction adventures. 9.20 Look Back with Neelke travelling from Lantsh to Inverness (r). 9.30 **Cartoon: Mighty Mouse in Love's Labour's Lost** (r). 10.00 **Why Don't You...?** (r). 10.25 **Play School**, presented by Iain Lauchlan (r). 10.55 **Gharbar**. Magazine programme for Asian women. Today's edition includes a discussion between working women on the problems of coping with a growing family, elderly parents or young children. 11.20 **Cee-fax**.

12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Sami Marshall. The weather details come from Bill Giles. 12.57 **Regional News** (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles. 1.00 **Pebble Mill at One** includes recipes from Michael Smith and a song from AJ Martino. 1.45 **Gran (r)**. 1.50 **Spot-Gol (r)**.

2.00 **Animal Magic in Hong Kong**. (r). 2.25 **Prime Time** Elephant. Callie Stewart (1989) starring Victoria McKenna and Bill Travers. Humorous encounters with a trio of elephants in Kenya. Directed by James Hill. 3.53 **Regional News** (not London).

3.58 **Play School**, presented by Chloë Aschcroft. 4.20 **The World of Penelope** (r). 4.40 **Reinhardt**. The last in the series (r). 5.05 **John Craven's Newsworld**.

5.10 **Break Point**. Episode four of the six-part drama about young tennis players (r).

5.40 **Sixty Minutes** includes news from Moore Stuart at 5.40; weather at 5.54; regional news at 5.58; and news headlines at 6.38.

6.40 **Young Mervyn of the Year 1984**. Humphrey Burton presents the five finalists in the Wind section of the competition.

7.15 **Film: Uptown Saturday Night** (1974) starring Sidney Poitier, Bill Cosby, Harry Belafonte and Richard Pryor. Lighthearted romp about two gamblers who are robbed of a winning lottery ticket and their efforts to retrieve it from an organised crime gang. Directed by Sidney Poitier.

9.00 **A Party Political Broadcast** by David Steel on behalf of the Liberal Party.

9.05 **News with Nicholas Witchell**.

9.30 **O.E.D. The War of Words** Down Under. Anthony Caro presents a programme about a splinter group in Australia determined to bring about the abolition of tobacco advertising.

10.00 **Sportnight** introduced by Harry Carpenter. Highlights from European competition football matches involving British clubs; action from the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship; and Christopher Martin-Jenkins recalls cricketing milestones through the eyes of master statistician, Bill Frindall.

12.00 **News headlines and weather**.

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1063kHz/285m; 1069kHz/275m; Radio 2: 693kHz/433m; 908kHz/330m; Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; VHF -90-92.5; Radio 4: 200kHz/1500m; VHF -92-95; LBC 1152kHz/108m; VHF 97.3; Capital: 1548kHz/194m; VHF 95.8; BBC Radio London 1458kHz/200m; VHF 94.9; World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

TV-am

6.25 **Good Morning Britain** presented by John Stapleton and Nick Owen. News from Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.30 and 8.30; exercises at 6.50 and 8.55; the day's anniversaries at 7.05 and 8.05; a guest in the Spotlight at 7.20; cartoon at 7.25; guest of the day, Lynn Seymour at 7.40 and 8.10; Eve Pollard's gossip column at 8.35.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 **Thames news headlines** followed by **Sesame Street** where learning is made fun by the Muppets and their human guests. 10.25 **Film: You're Damned** (1982) starring Laurel and Hardy. They play musicians who, having lost their jobs in the park band, take to the streets. Directed by Edgar Kennedy. 10.50 **The New South-American**. Author James Michener examines the Southern United States. 11.40 **Sport 585 (r)**.

12.00 **Atari's Music**. Making a drum noise with a wooden spoon and a saucepan. 12.10 **Sounds Like a Story**. Mark Wynter with the traditional tale of *The Tortoise and the Hare* (r). 12.30 **News**.

1.00 **News 1.30** Thames news 1.30. A Plus. Dilly Powell, the Sunday Times film critic for 45 years, talks to Mavis Nicholson about her love of cinema and chooses five films that mean more to her than any others.

2.00 **Take the High Road**. Drama serial set in the Scottish highland estates of Glendaroch. 2.30 **A Country Practice**. Medical drama set in the Australian outback. 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**. Australian-made soap opera.

4.00 **Atari's Music**. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 **Aubrey**. Cartoon adventures of an eccentric inventor (r). 4.25 **Letter**. Serial set in a children's home. 4.40 **Razzmatazz**. Pop music and interviews. 5.15 **Emmerdale Farm**.

5.45 **News**. 6.00 **Thames news**. 6.25 **Help** Viv Taylor Gae talks to Pauline Stewart about the Perivale Midsomurade Support Group.

6.30 **Coverage**. Paul Rose's actions against Lisa Walters. 7.00 **The Country Diary of an Edwardian Lady**. Episode nine: September. Pippa Guard stars as Edith Holden.

7.30 **Coronation Street**. The television detector van pays the Street a visit and somebody is nabbed for not having a licence. Who can it be?

8.00 **The Benny Hill Show**. Comedy sketches filled with double entendres. 9.00 **Mr Palfrey of Westminster**. Part two of the spy thriller starring Alec McCowen as a Special Intelligence Service investigator.

10.00 **A Party Political Broadcast** by David Steel on behalf of the Liberal Party.

10.05 **News**.

10.35 **Midweek Sports Special** presented by Brian Moore. Highlights from boxing bouts on tonight's bill at the Alexandra Pavilion; skating from Nottingham featuring Torville and Dean and football - news of tonight's European matches involving British clubs.

11.35 **The Sands of Silence: A War Game That Went Tragically Wrong** (see Choice).

12.05 **Darkroom: A Quiet Funeral**. Comedian Charlie Pyro is left for dead when he is forced into a joke.

12.25 **Night Thoughts**.



Maurice Denham and Rudolph Walker (BBC 2, 9.30 pm).

● **THE SANDS OF SILENCE** deserved a better time-slot than the one it has got (ITV, 11.35pm). And so it is, in a way, a pity that it is an extraordinary, moving and highly complex tale of incompetence that it tells, and it seems inconceivable that it has taken one of our smaller television companies, TSW, catering for viewers in the south-west of England, to tell it for the first time. For the first time on television, that is. The facts have already surfaced in Leslie Thomas's book *The Magic Army*, and it is right and proper that Mr Thomas turns up in TSW's film, carrying a copy of his book. What *The Sands of Silence* does so well, even in its miniaturised state, is to reconstruct, with interviews and archive material, the events of 1944 when 750 United States servicemen taking part in a D-

Day rehearsal off the south Devon coast, needlessly lost their lives, victims of German E-boats that sank two troop landing ships that were minimally escorted - the result of a breakdown in new intelligence communications. The disaster was officially hushed-up, ostensibly to protect morale on the eve of the Normandy landings. TSW's modestly-made documentary is clearly, only the first salvo in what will be ferociously fought television debate involving some very big guns.

● **THE HOPE AND THE GLORY** (BBC 2, 9.30pm). Caryl Phillips's play about the bridging of the islands of loneliness that make up the geography of some people's lives, is perfectly acceptable drama so long as it hugs that particular shoreline. It is when it pushes its nose out into the choppy seas of racial intolerance that the plot starts to take in water and acquire a list. Like Barrie Keeley's play *King*, screened on BBC 1 a couple of weeks ago, it has a central character who is a West Indian railway worker (Rudolph Walker), living in Britain. Otherwise, the two plays have little in common. Mr Keeley's extravaganza, amusingly, satisfied hero was ultimately shaken by social evils that he had studiously chosen to ignore. Mr Phillips's introverted hero is shattered by a social aberration that it seems he was naive enough not to have noticed. Maurice Denham plays the neighbour who innocently sets the charge.

Peter Davalle

BBC 2

9.00 **Cee-fax**.
 10.25 **World Snooker Live** coverage of the fifth day of the Embassy World Professional Snooker Championship from the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield, beginning with the final ten frames of the match between the twelfth seed Doug Mountjoy and quarter-finalist Mike Hallett. On the adjoining table John Virgo, the fourteenth seed meets Willie Thorne. At 2.30 David Vine presents **Snooker Break**, the item in which viewers' questions about the game are answered. The afternoon session begins at 3.00 with the game between Canada's Cliff Thorburn, the number three seed and Mario Morra and continues with the concluding frame of the match between Dennis Taylor, seeded 13, against Joe Johnson.

5.35 **News** summary with subtitles. 5.40 **Film: The Treasure of Pancho Villa** (1955) starring Rory Calhoun and Shelley Winters. Two men in the pay of the Mexican Pancho Villa, execute a daring robbery on a train carrying a gold shipment. As they make their arduous and lengthy way back to Villa's headquarters their friendship and their commitment to Villa's ideals are tested. With Gilbert Roland. Directed by George Sherman.

7.15 **Swallows and Amazons**. Forever Part three of the four-episode story based on Arthur Ransome's tale. The Big Six. A quantity of stolen property is found on the Death and Glory boys' boat. It then becomes a race against time to uncover the real miscreants.

7.40 **World Snooker**. David Vine introduces live coverage of the game between the number four seed Tony Knowles and John Parrott.

8.30 **Top Gear**. The latest programme of the present series features an exclusive look at Austin Rover's new design centre at Canley, Coventry. Frank Page and Sue Baker test drive the department's latest babies - the Montego range.

9.00 **Entertainment USA**. The first of a new series, presented by Jonathan King, which takes a look at the latest happenings on the United States' entertainment scene.

9.30 **Play: The Hope and the Glory**, by Caryl Phillips. Maurice Denham and Rudolph Walker, star in this story about the friendship between a West Indian and an old Londoner (see Choice).

10.30 **A Party Political Broadcast** by David Steel on behalf of the Liberal Party.

10.35 **Newsnight**.

11.20 **The Twilight Zone: The Chase**. Lovell Roger's dream girl becomes a nightmare when she takes the mysterious potion he gives her. Starring George Takei and Patricia Richardson. Ends at 11.50.

12.05 **News**.

CHANNEL 4

2.15 **Racing from Epsom**. Brought Scott introduces four races from the Surrey course - the Cuddington Maiden Auction Stakes (2.00) (a recording); the Princess Elizabeth Stakes (2.30); the Western Stakes (3.05); and the Daily Mirror Apprentice Championship Handicap Stakes (3.35).

3.45 **Film: Carbine Up** (1952) starring Robert Morley and Margaret Rutherford. Delightful comedy about the boos of a provincial repertory company at odds with a playwright whose work is being rehearsed. Directed by Ralph Smart.

5.15 **Cosmoquest**. Another edition of the fast-moving programme and mental arithmetic competition.

5.45 **Passage to Britain**. Part two of the 12 programme series examining the history of immigration to Britain deals with the Jews - The Koshers. The Jews first arrived in Britain about 1065 and almost immediately became the victims of religious intolerance. They were massacred in York in 1190 and expelled from the country a century later. They were invited back by Oliver Cromwell in 1655 and today it is estimated that there are about 350,000 living in the country. In their old prejudice against them? Among those answering that question is Colin Holmes, reader in History at the University of Sheffield and author of *Anti-Semitism in Great Britain*.

6.15 **David Thompson's Bodyshop**. The first of a new series of six programmes in which the distinguished decoration champion talks to celebrities about their own fitness schedules and offers tips and advice to viewers. Today's guest is singer and actor Roger Daltrey and he discusses with Daley Thompson the problems and benefits of serious weight training.

6.45 **Street Good Looking**. Janet Steyn-Good examines the evolution of cigarette advertising.

7.00 **Channel 4 Four News**. 7.50 **Comment from a Labour MP**. 8.00 **Brookside**. Paul's career prospects brighten when he meets his ex-girlfriend for a round of golf.

8.30 **Play: Outside Edge**, by Richard Harris. Hilarious comedy about the captain of a club cricket team, his wife and members of his team. Starring Paul Eddington, Prunella Scales and Maureen Lipman.

10.15 **Arloft in Conversation** with Mike Brantley. The first of a series of four programmes about the life and career of John Arloft.

11.15 **Look Forward**. A preview of the channel's Spring offerings.

11.30 **Perfect Lives**. The television opera continues.

11.55 **Janet Steyn-Good's Continuous Diary**.

12.05 **News**.

Radio 4

6.00 **News briefing**. Weather. 6.10 **Farming Today**. 6.25 **Shipping**. Today, and 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 **News**. 6.45 **Prayer**. 6.55, 7.55 **Weather**. 7.00, 8.00 **Sport**. 7.25, 8.25 **Sport**. 7.45 **Thought for the Day**. 8.55 **Thought for the Day**. 9.00 **Thought for the Day**. 9.15 **Thought for the Day**. 9.30 **Thought for the Day**. 9.45 **Thought for the Day**. 10.00 **Thought for the Day**. 10.15 **Thought for the Day**. 10.30 **Thought for the Day**. 10.45 **Thought for the Day**. 11.00 **Thought for the Day**. 11.15 **Thought for the Day**. 11.30 **Thought for the Day**. 11.45 **Thought for the Day**. 12.00 **Thought for the Day**. 12.15 **Thought for the Day**. 12.30 **Thought for the Day**. 12.45 **Thought for the Day**. 1.00 **Thought for the Day**. 1.15 **Thought for the Day**. 1.30 **Thought for the Day**. 1.45 **Thought for the Day**. 2.00 **Thought for the Day**. 2.15 **Thought for the Day**. 2.30 **Thought for the Day**. 2.45 **Thought for the Day**. 3.00 **Thought for the Day**. 3.15 **Thought for the Day**. 3.30 **Thought for the 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Concern in Israel grows over fate of bus hijackers

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Concern is growing in Israel that one of the four Arabs who hijacked a civilian bus earlier this month may have been captured alive and killed afterwards by one or more members of the security forces. The fears have arisen despite some of the most rigorous military censorship in recent years.

Military sources have over the past 48 hours no longer been prepared to rule out the chance categorically, as they did at the start of the affair, that the fourth hijacker, Mr Majdi Abu Juma, aged 18, did not die of wounds he received when the bus was stormed.

The mystery surrounding the fate of the two hijackers who did not die on the bus has grown with the disclosure that Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister, told an Israeli free-lance radio journalist working for the BBC in an interview 90 minutes after the rescue bid that only two of the terrorists had been killed.

The interview was secured on the spot in the occupied Gaza Strip by Mr Jerry Cheslow, and was re-played to *The Times* yesterday. In it the minister's voice can be heard clearly replying: "Two terrorists have been killed." The answer is in a part of the interview banned by the military censor, who refuses to discuss the reason for the ban.

Yesterday the *Jerusalem Post* published a toughly-worded

leading article listing three unanswered questions about the affair which is expected to gather momentum as politicians return to the pre-election fray after the week-long Passover holiday.

The paper, like much of the Israeli press, has apparently been barred from printing its own version of events. It is having to rely instead on repeating foreign accounts. It argued: "The insistent reports that one of the Arab terrorists who hijacked the bus bound for Ashkelon was captured alive and then killed can no longer be ignored."

The paper cited the main evidence behind the speculation, a photograph taken by an Israeli photographer of an Arab, apparently alive and well, being led from the bus by two Israeli security men. The Arab was later identified by neighbours and relatives as one of the four dead hijackers. The photograph has been censored.

The paper said: "If indeed a terrorist was killed after capture, this could only be upon orders or in defiance of orders. If upon orders, the public must be concerned, for that is how the rule of law in a society begins to erode. If in defiance of orders, then the Army must be concerned, for that is how discipline begins to erode. In either case the public has a right and a need to know the truth."

Scargill spurns pit offer

Continued from page 1

negotiate about pit closures or reductions in manpower.

The coal board floated the idea of an extension of the one-year time limit for colliery shutdowns, but Mr MacGregor made plain to the management unions that the overall target of 20,000 job reduction and closure of four million tonnes of capacity must stand.

The board is pinning considerable hopes on the fact that miners in moderate areas are still reluctant to follow the strike call issued by a union delegate conference last week.

All seven pits open after the Easter holidays in Nottinghamshire yesterday were producing coal, though there was heavy picketing at two - Clipstone and Sherwood - and four arrests were made. In all, 14 pits were working, the remainder in Leicestershire, North Wales, and Cumberland.

After the less-than-lukewarm response to the strike call in traditionally moderate areas, NUM national officials will renew their efforts to spread the strike into Nottinghamshire.

In advertisements placed in newspapers circulating in the coal fields, the coal board sought yesterday to put its side of the story.

"In 12 months' time the industry's output and demand will be in balance. We shall then attack the market to increase sales. Our objective will be a minimum capacity of 100 million tonnes a year."

Miner stopped, page 2

Taking the plunge on a Hawaii holiday



Two in the shallows: The Reagans emerging after a midday swim in the surf.

Double blow for Zola Budd's Olympic goal

Continued from page 1

sent a message to Mr John Davies, director of the Sports Centre, urging him to put "pressure" on the Southern Counties Athletics Association, which is organizing the meeting.

Both the Sports Council and Southern Counties refused to budge. The Council said: "We control Crystal Palace but we do not interfere in any way." Mr Leonard Smith, secretary of the Southern Counties, said: "If Miss Budd wants to withdraw that is her choice, but she is not being asked to withdraw and I am not expecting her to withdraw."

Miss Budd, could apparently appease the GLC by proclaiming her hostility to apartheid, however.

Palace Preview, page 25

China trip to make the world safer

From Christopher Thomas Washington

President Reagan left his sea-front hotel in Hawaii yesterday for Guam, his last stop before Peking. He said the United States would work with its friends, including China, to "make the world safer by working for peace and jointly opposing expansionist aggression."

The visit symbolizes the maturing of America's relationship with China.

There are indications that President Reagan will sign an agreement in Peking on commercial nuclear cooperation between the nations, clearing the way for American businesses to sell nuclear power equipment to China.

It would be the strongest sign of the rapidly improving relationship in the past two years after a period of coolness.



One in the swim: The President making a splash as he cuts through the water during his Honolulu break.

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

Princess Anne opens Taunton Deane Borough Council's development of flats for elderly people, Kilkenny Court, Taunton, Somerset, 3, and as President of the Save the Children Fund, visits the Wellington Library Exhibition, Wellington, Somerset, 4.45.

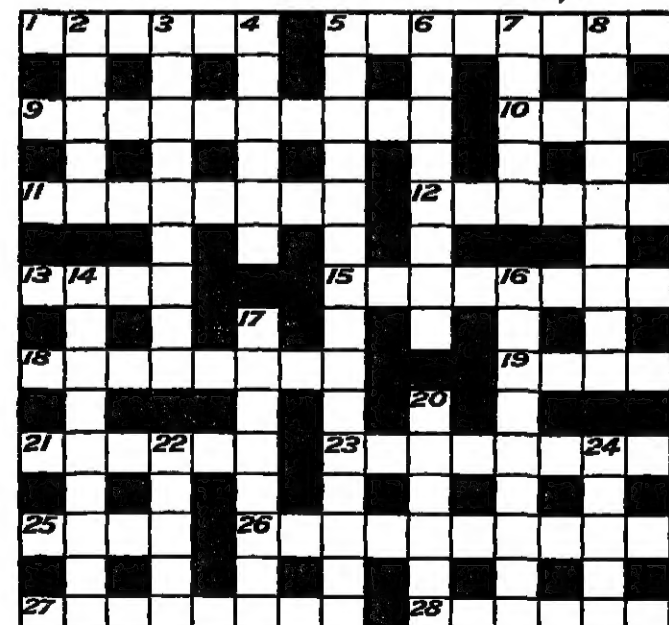
The Duke of Kent, Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, attends the Annual Investiture and Grand Festival at Freemason's Hall, WC2, 4.15.

The Duchess of Kent, as Patron attends the Not Forgotten Association's Dedication Ceremony for their new ambulance coach, arriving Royal Mews entrance, Buckingham Palace, 11.30.

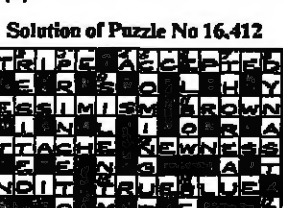
New exhibitions
Capricious Views: exhibition of townscapes, Royal Museum and Art Gallery, High St, Canterbury, Mon to Sat 10 to 5 closed Sun, (ends May 28).

The Colchester Earthquake Exhibition: Natural History Museum, Colchester, Mon to Sat 10 to 1 & 2 to 5 (closed Sun-ends September 8).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,413



- ACROSS
- Channel without water, do we hear? (6).
 - No latecomers on this list (8).
 - Instrument makes fish run in front (6-4).
 - Cat seen in chains, say? (4).
 - Find trouble about uncommon type of radiation (5-3).
 - Ancient Shakespearian weapon (6).
 - March with brass instrument in retreat (4).
 - Family preference for some wine-pot is manifest (8).
 - Tree top, metal construction (8).
 - King of Spain quietly goes ahead to the quarry (4).
 - The flower of our schoolchildren (6).
 - Marriage, if caught - all that is put outside (8).
 - Away with a king of Mercia (4).
 - Its nice red strangely varying in hue (10).
 - Leg bound to be damaged by a heavy stick (9).
 - Swimmer has a sort of jet type of shirt (6).
- DOWN
- Rose's companion is an old character (5).
 - Tree-garden a right tedious experience to little Mary (9).
 - Gold they received from speculation (6).
 - Deputy Ivan got nothing, oddly, in public acclaim (8,7).
 - Browning's Evelyn accepts mince pies for help in the garden (8).
 - Sea-food cooked along with suet (9).
 - Giving Keats perpetual joy (9).
 - Stage performer is extremely noisy (3-6).
 - Request to turn over to the state bad food product (8).
 - One hiring Holmes was illustrious but anonymous (6).
 - Antelope is one right from the Emerald Isle (5).
 - Steer to leave this part of Africa (4).



CONCISE CROSSWORD, PAGE 10

New books - hardback

A selection of interesting books published this week:
A Curious Life for a Lady: the story of Isabella Bird by Pat Barr (Secker & Warburg, £9.95)
Andalusia: a Portrait of Southern Spain by Nicholas Luard (Century, £9.95)
Britain and China, 1941-47: Imperial Momentum (Macmillan Press, £20)
Chivalry by Maurice Keen (Yale, £12.50)
One Winter's Beginnings by Eudora Welty (Harvard, £3.50)
The Abyss by Margaret Yourison (Allen Lane, £8.95)
The Book of Esther by Robert Bly (Faber, £10)
The Penguin Wine Book by Pamela Vandyke Price (Allen Lane, £8.95)
The Price and the Fall by Anthony Parsons (Cape, £9.95)
The Reading of Frost by David Elstein (Blackwell, £17.50)

Roads

London and South-east: Nearside northbound lane occupied in Regent Street at junction with Air Street. A113: Temporary lights, Chigwell Road, south of Green Lane. A12: Carriageway widths reduced east and westbound in Colchester Road, Harold Estate, Romford, between Gallows Corner and Petersfield Road.

Wales and West: A38: Lane closures at Marsh Mills between Plymouth and Ivybridge, Devon. A78: Northbound carriageway closed on Cymbran - M4 (junction 26), road diversion operates. A396: Temporary lights in Truro Road, St Austell, Cornwall; also improvement works at Grynpound.

Midlands and East: A12: Contraflow at Bentley, on Ipswich to Colchester Road. A49: Single-lane traffic on Shrewsbury-Ludlow road at Marshbrook, Shropshire; temporary signals. A6: Contraflow on Derby-Leicester road at Hathern. A78: Bridge repairs and re-signing of approaches to Buccleuch Street bridge, Dumfries; one lane only in each direction and turning restrictions to/from Whitesands.

A75: Road reconstruction west of B789 junction (Johnstone); east-bound carriageway closed, diversion operates.

Information supplied by AA

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Debate on Opposition motion on transport. Lords (2.30): Debate on Science and Technology Committee report on digital mapping. Urban Parishes Bill: second reading. Debate on Afghanistan.

Anniversaries

Birth: Edward II reigned 1307-27. Charnavon, 1284. Oliver Cromwell, 1599. Sir Mark I. Samuels, engineer and inventor, Haqueville, France, 1769. John Kable, Anglican priest, a leader of the Oxford Movement, Fairford, Gloucestershire, 1792. Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, (new style) May 7, Voronezh, Russia, 1840. Walter De La Mare, poet, Charlton, Kent, 1873. Guglielmo Marconi, Bologna, Italy, 1874. Wolfgang Pauli, physicist, Nobel laureate 1945, Vienna, 1900.

The Papers

In an editorial headed "The Libyan Terror" the Washington Post said that President Reagan was right when early on he branded Colonel Gaddafi a pariah and "the most dangerous man in the world." The paper said that Reagan was right when he said that the United States would not negotiate with the Libyan regime. "Other nations, some of them mocking Mr Reagan for his 'overreaction', took up some of the slack. He was right and they were wrong," it commented.

The Sun quotes Arthur Scargill that the coal dispute has cost the nation £1,000m, including £500m due to lost production. "Mr Scargill speaks with apparent relish. What a strange fellow he must be," it comments. "Cannot he see that the loss is a tragedy and especially for the miners themselves? Those wasted millions could have helped ensure the future of the coal industry... There is also one figure that Mr Scargill did not mention. The dispute has cost each miner over £1,000 in lost wages - and coal face workers much more. Week after week each of them is paying the price for John Arthur - the pain in their paypacket."

The Daily Express says that Ian McGregor's willingness to consider extending his programme of redundancies and pit closures beyond the 12 months specified, poses several disquieting questions. "For instance, if he is retreating, should he? No one has made out a better case for his modernization programme than he has."

The pound

	Bank	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell	Sell
Australia \$	1.61	1.53	
Canada \$	27.90	26.15	
Belgium F	81.25	77.25	
Denmark Kr	1.87	1.80	
Finland Mkk	14.38	13.68	
France F	11.95	11.45	
Germany DM	3.89	3.71	
Spain Ptas	155.00	145.00	
Hongkong \$	11.45	10.85	
Italy Lira	2395.00	2295.00	
Japan Yen	332.00	316.00	
Netherlands Gld	4.43	4.21	
Norway Kr	11.30	10.70	
Portugal Esc	196.50	186.50	
South Africa Rd	2.01	1.87	
Sweden Kr	217.50	206.50	
Switzerland Fr	11.63	11.05	
USA \$	3.23	3.06	
Yugoslavia Dnr	1.46	1.41	
Ireland	1.27	1.21	

Prices for most commodities have risen, but a number of commodities have fallen. The pound is up against the dollar, but down against the yen. The pound is up against the franc, but down against the mark. The pound is up against the Swiss franc, but down against the Italian lira. The pound is up against the Japanese yen, but down against the Australian dollar. The pound is up against the Canadian dollar, but down against the New Zealand dollar. The pound is up against the Hong Kong dollar, but down against the Singapore dollar. The pound is up against the Malaysian dollar, but down against the Thai baht. The pound is up against the Philippine peso, but down against the Indonesian rupiah. The pound is up against the Vietnamese dong, but down against the Cambodian riel. The pound is up against the Lao kip, but down against the Burmese kyat. The pound is up against the Sri Lankan rupee, but down against the Nepalese rupee. 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